

Hafa Adai!

Migrant Workers Office to visit Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. **PAGE 2**  
6.4-magnitude earthquake near Guguan. **PAGE 3**

\$1

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

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## Rota-Guam flights face possible cancellation



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
The Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Due to the lack of adequate U.S. Customs and Border Patrol personnel at the Rota International Airport, Star Marianas Air, Inc. says it may have no choice but to cancel its Rota-Guam route indefinitely come October.

See **FLIGHTS** on Page 4

### Southern Airways seeks dismissal of Star Marianas' federal lawsuit



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From August 2022 until April 2023, Marianas Southern Airways existed as the main competitor to Star Marianas in the CNMI.

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Southern Airways Express LLC has filed a motion asking the U.S. District Court for the NMI to dismiss the lawsuit filed by Star Marianas Air, Inc. over an \$8-million

contract between Marianas Southern Airways and the administration of former governor Ralph DLG Torres.

Last June, Star Marianas filed a lawsuit against Southern Airways Express LLC and Marianas Pacific Express

See **STAR** on Page 4

## \$50K bail for duo arrested for theft and burglary



DPS

Cherie Marie Delos Santos has been charged with theft, burglary, and conspiracy to both crimes the night of her arrest last Monday.



DPS

Shawn Reyes has been charged with theft, burglary, and conspiracy to both crimes the night of his arrest last Monday.

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**  
chrystal\_marino@saipantribune.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Following their arrest, two individuals involved in recent burglary and theft incidents appeared before the NMI Superior Court in Susupe yesterday.

Facing charges of burglary, theft, and conspiracy to commit both crimes, Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio issued a \$25,000 cash bail each for both individuals, Shawn Reyes, 33, of Susupe, and

See **\$50K** on Page 4

## Invest 97W now Tropical Storm Pulasan

The National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam said the tropical disturbance west of the Marianas, Invest 97W, was upgraded to Tropical Storm Pulasan (15W) yesterday morning by the Joint

Typhoon Warning Center. Pulasan is the 15th tropical cyclone in the western North Pacific this year. As it is within the NWS Guam Area of Responsibility, NWS will be issuing public advisories

every six hours until it moves west of 130E or north of 25N.

There are currently no tropical storm/typhoon watches or warnings in effect as Pulasan poses no threat to

See **STORM** on Page 4

### INSIDE



#### LOCAL

The Office of Insular Affairs has transferred payments of \$181,068,638 to the U.S. Virgin Islands and \$76,402,101 to Guam.

**PAGE 7**



#### LOCAL

U.S. Congressman Ed Case (D-HI) announced that the U.S. House of Representatives has passed H.R. 7159, his proposed Pacific Partnership Act, to further increase U.S. engagement in the critical Pacific region.

**PAGE 10**



#### LIFE & STYLE

Sean "Diddy" Combs was arrested late Monday in New York, where he faces a sealed criminal indictment, prosecutors announced late Monday.

**PAGE 11**



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**GOT A NEWS TIP?**

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com



# Local

## Migrant Workers Office to visit Saipan, Tinian, and Rota

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD  
raxfloyd@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

After the three-day mobile outreach mission of the Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam last weekend, it's the Migrant Workers Office-Washington, D.C.'s turn to hold an Overseas Filipino Information and Service Caravan in the CNMI from Sept. 19 to 24.

The MWO's first stop will be Tinian from Sept. 19 to 20. On Day 1 from 5pm to 7pm, MWO will hold an orientation of OWWA Programs with the venue still to be announced.

Day 2 will be from 9am to 3:30pm at the Bar-K-Diner and Drive-in, Broadway corner Canal St., Tinian. It will consist of an information and service caravan, MWO Employment Contract Verifica-

tion, and OWWA Membership enrolment and renewal.

The MWO will then be on Saipan from Sept. 21 to 22, 9am-5pm, at the Joteten & Daidai Social Hall, Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa.

It will start with an information and service caravan, followed by Employment Contract Verifications and OWWA Membership enrol-

ment and renewal that will also include the virtual consultation activity regarding Pag-Ibig Fund, Social Security System, PhilHealth, and Overseas Filipino Bank.

On Day 1 of the Saipan caravan, the MWO will also hold a town hall meeting with the Filipino community regarding MWO and OWWA programs from 5pm to 7pm.

The MWO-DC service car-

avan will conclude its CNMI trip on Rota on Sept. 24 from 9am to 2pm at Puesto Grill, in Songsong Village. It will provide the same suite of services to Filipino overseas workers on the southernmost chain of the CNMI.

For the list of requirements for MWO contract verification and OWWA membership enrollment/renewal, check this link <https://tinyurl.com/Requirements-CNMI>.

For those who will be availing of the abovementioned services, answer this survey <https://tinyurl.com/CNMI-Survey>.

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam consul Ricardo Aragon, meanwhile, explained during an interview during the mobile outreach mission the difference between the PCG and MWO.

He said the PCG in Guam

provides consular services such as Philippine passport processing and distribution, civil registration, dual citizenship, and national assistance. PCG is not only doing the service in the CNMI, but includes the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands.

The MWO, on the other hand, is under the jurisdiction of the Philippine government's Department of Labor. The MWO also functions under the Philippine Department of Migrant Workers in Washington, D.C., which is attached to the Philippine embassy while the MWO for Guam's jurisdiction is in Los Angeles.

The MWO is the overseas operating arm of the newly-created Department of Migrant Workers and is tasked to protect the rights and promote the welfare of overseas Filipino workers.

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**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

**LEASE OF VEHICLES**

**ITB24-CHCC/ IMMUNIZATION-028**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE ([WWW.CHCC.HEALTH](http://WWW.CHCC.HEALTH)). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA**  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**/S/ CORA P. ADA**  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp) • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>  
Tels: (670) 234-9447 / 234-6866 / 234-7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

**PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

NMHC hereby publicly discloses that on September 13, 2024, Zerah N. Castro, an immediate family member of Jesse S. Castro of NMHC, applied for assistance under the HOME Program.

Said applicant has been determined to be a member of a group or class of low-income persons intended to be beneficiaries of the assisted activity and is applying to receive generally the same benefits being made available to the group or class. Mr. Jesse S. Castro is not and shall not be involved in the handling of this loan application.

NMHC discloses this possible conflict pursuant to 24 CFR 92.356 in order to allow any interested persons to comment before the application is considered for an exception under the applicable HOME Program conflict regulations. Any comments should be submitted to NMHC on or before October 3, 2024.

Dated this 17th day of September, 2024.

**/S/ ZENIE P. MAFNAS**  
Corporate Director

*"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"*



CUC water service interruption set for Sadog Tasi on Sept. 19



The map of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s scheduled water service interruption in Sadog Tasi this Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there will be a scheduled water service interruption on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024.

The affected area is Sadog Tasi, specifically Lagura Drive, Coastal Drive, Woosch Lane., Sadog Tasi Drive., Isa Drive, Pila Drive, and Rasaki Way, and it will be from 9:30am to 4:30pm.

Customers in these areas will experience low to no water pressure between the specified hours. CUC asks customers to allow 1-2 hours for the water lines to fully pressurize.

The purpose of the scheduled water service interruption is to allow CUC water operators to replace a 6-inch gate valve and 6-inch pressure reducing valve on Coastal Drive.

CUC notes that the scheduled interruption may be subject to change due to inclement weather conditions.

CUC appreciates the public's cooperation and understanding as CUC works to ensure reliable service for its customers. For more information, contact CUC's hotline at (670) 236-4333, visit its website, and monitor its Facebook

Rota precautionary boil water notice will continue

The results of the water samples taken at Rota last Sept. 14, 2024 were all clear of total coliform and E. Coli. However, due to the continued heavy rainfall, the precautionary boil water notice will remain in effect as Rota water operators monitor turbidity in the system to ensure safe drinking water for the community.

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Hotline at (670) 236-4333 or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates. (PR)

page for the latest updates. For emergencies, contact Customer Service at (670) 664-4282. (PR)

6.4-magnitude earthquake near Guguan

At 9:37pm on Monday, Sept. 16, 2024, a 6.4-magnitude earthquake shook Guguan in the Northern Islands, according to the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

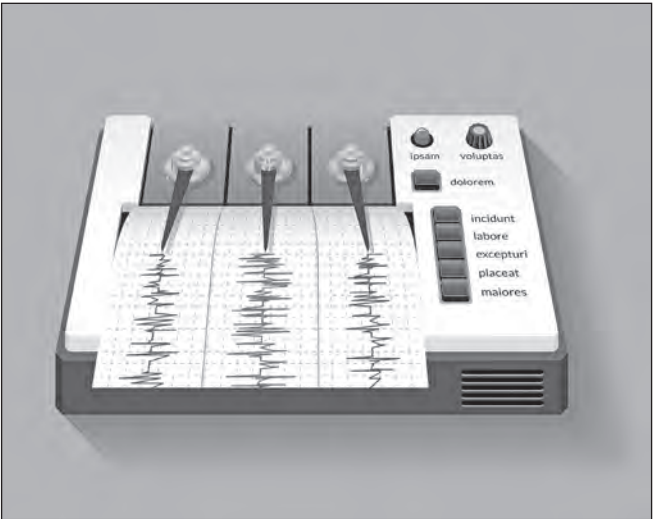
Based on the information received from the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operation Center, State Warning Point, there was no tsunami threat for the CNMI following the 6.4-magnitude temblor, which struck about 110 miles east of Guguan at a depth of 6 miles.

Guguan is located 250 nautical miles north from Saipan, 67 nautical miles northeast from Sarigan, and 30 nautical miles south from Alamagan.

HSEM said the cooperation and understanding of the

general public are greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the CNMI EOC State Warning point at (670) 237-8000, VHF Marine Channel-16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. (PR)

CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management said Guguan was rocked by a 6.4-magnitude earthquake at 9:37pm last Monday.



**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

NMHC JVA No.	Positions:	Salary	Opening Date	Closing Date
2024-022	CDBG-DR Construction Inspector (1-Position)	UNGRADED \$25,000.00 to \$28,875.00 Per Annum	September 4, 2024	September 19, 2024 4:00 PM

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information can be accessed at [www.nmhcgov.net](http://www.nmhcgov.net) and [www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com).

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; the CDBG-DR Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Ladera Building, Chalan Laulau, Beach Road; or email application and documents to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net).

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net). NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ **Zenie P. Mafnas**  
Corporate Director

**COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION**  
Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**CUC-IFB-24-021**

**AFETNAS WATERLINE REPLACEMENT and AFETNAS SEWERLINE COLLECTION UPGRADE PH I**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Afetnas Waterline Replacement and Afetnas Sewerline Collection Upgrade in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The **Afetnas Waterline Replacement project** consists of replacing existing water mains on Afetna Road, Buninas Loop, Chalak Lane, Pios Drive, Uahu Lane, Toson Drive, Sata Drive, and Doddo Way. New water pipelines, saddles, corporation & curb stops, and relocation & reconnection to the existing water meters will be installed and done to accomplish the work. The work will include shallow excavations, rock-breaking, installing new flush & fire hydrants, pressure & air relief valves, connecting new service laterals, asphalt pavement restoration, installing flowable fill, and other appurtenances for a complete and functional water system.

The **Afetnas Sewerline Collection Upgrade Ph I project** consists of furnishing all labor, supervision, equipment, and materials for the construction of various improvements within an area. This work includes, but is not limited to installation of new gravity main and new sewer manholes, service laterals, connection of new service laterals to existing service laterals, abandonment of existing sewer manholes, and restoration of existing asphalt concrete road.

The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water and sewer systems. CUC requires the Projects to be completed in 540 calendar days from the date of the award of the contract.

These projects are funded by grants from the United States American Rescue Plan Act (US ARPA) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). The award of these projects is contingent upon receipt of approval for project awards from US ARPA and US EPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **September 12, 2024 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-24-021, Afetnas Waterline Replacement and Afetnas Sewerline Collection Upgrade Ph I" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 7, 2024**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before the due date and time or post-marked before the due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns, and qualifications shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contract nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to a lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of the Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 16, 2024**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org), with a copy to Kennet Bernardo, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email [kennet.bernardo@cucgov.org](mailto:kennet.bernardo@cucgov.org), and to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Senior Administrative Technician at [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

KEVIN O. WATSON  
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator

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**Please Call: 234-8079 | 287-8079**



# \$20K bail for man who showed himself to minor

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**  
chrystal\_marino@saipantribune.com  
CORRESPONDENT

A 26-year-old man was imposed a \$20,000 bail after he indecently exposed himself to a 13-year-old last Monday.

Jimmy Philip Kaipat appeared before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio yesterday afternoon at the Superior Court in Susupe where he was charged with indecent exposure to the second degree and disturbing the peace.

Kim-Tenorio placed a \$20,000 bail on Kaipat and ordered he be remanded back to

the custody of the Department of Corrections. Kaipat is set to return to court on Sept. 25, 2024 at 9am for a preliminary hearing and on Oct. 7 at 9am for arraignment. Attorney Emily Thomsen from the Public Defender Office was assigned to defend Kaipat, with assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas representing the government.

Court documents state that on Monday, Sept. 16, around 1pm, DPS Central received a disturbance call from an apartment just behind Gold Beach Hotel on Beach Road, Garapan.

The caller, later identified as the victim's mother, was reporting that an unknown male exposed his sexual organ to her 13-year-old daughter, as the girl was walking home from the bus stop.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

# 'We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes Month' ceremony postponed anew

By **RACQUEL H. FLOYD**  
raxfloyd@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Due to inclement weather conditions, the "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes Month" 9/11 commemoration ceremonies on Saipan and Tinian have been postponed again.

According to Tan Holdings Community Relations vice president Catherine Attao-Toves, the displayed U.S. flags throughout the CNMI were temporarily taken out prior to the Tropical Storm advisory.

"As you are aware, we had to temporarily retire our flags

prior to the tropical storm advisory. With the soft ground, we hope that the weather will start to ease up so the flags can be reposted. On behalf of Tan Holdings, the Tan Sui Lin Foundation, and committee members, we are thankful for your patience, as we weather this monsoon and additional forecasted showers," said Attao-Toves.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## STORM

From page 1

the Marianas, Yap, or Palau. Elsewhere across the NWS Guam AOR, there are no suspect areas for significant development. Tropical cyclone development is not expected in the region at least through the weekend.

After nearly 10 days of wet and windy weather, the CNMI and Guam are seeing much improved weather conditions

as Pulasan and the monsoon pull away to the northwest.

Over the last eight days, NWS Guam measured nearly 20 inches of rain, with three separate days achieving new record rainfall for that day in history (Sept. 11 at 6.01 inches, Sept. 13 at 3.76 inches, Sept. 16 at 5.62 inches). Rainfall for the month (21.02 inches) is more than double the normal (8.33 inches). Wind gusts across the region reached nearly 60 mph during peak conditions

last Monday as the monsoon surged. Spotty showers, some briefly heavy, will linger through the day today, flowing into the monsoon to the west. Weather conditions will continue to improve across Guam and the CNMI, with fair weather expected late this week and into the weekend. Some showers could return Sunday.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## \$50K

From page 1

Cherie Marie Delos Santos, 28, of Finasisu.


Both Delos Santos and Reyes' preliminary hearing is set for Sept 25 at 9am, and arraignment on Oct. 7 at 9am. Public defense attorneys were selected for the two with Vince

Seman representing Delos Santos and Emily Thomsen for Reyes. The CNMI government will be represented by assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas.


According to court documents officers responded to a reported burglary and theft incident around 6:35pm on Sept. 12, 2024. The incident had occurred at a residence in Susupe.

Upon arrival officers learned from the victim that two DJI drones worth \$2,000 each, hand and power tools valued around \$1,420, two car batteries in the amount of \$220, and luggage with personal documents were stolen.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)



**DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES**  
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**



**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB24-OGM/RT-42400137**

**SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2024    TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"PONA POINT CLIFF FISHING PARK PROJECT, ROTA"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL (<https://selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/>) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT BLDG NO. 12386, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB MAY BE SENT TO ADMINISTRATOR OF OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT, MR. EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA JR. AT [EPI.CABRERA@GOV.MP](mailto:EPI.CABRERA@GOV.MP) BY 4:30 P.M. CHST., SEPTEMBER 25, 2024.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-305, 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.**  
STATE ADMINISTRATOR, OGM

**/S/ BRIEN S. NICHOLAS, JR.**  
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS



**DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES**  
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**RFP NO.: RFP24-GOV/OGM-42400134**

**SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 18, 2024    TIME: 09:00 A.M.**

**"ENERGIZING INSULAR COMMUNITIES: GOVERNMENT SOLAR ENERGY APPLICATIONS AND INTAKE ELECTRONIC TRACKING SYSTEM"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL (<https://selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/>) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT BLDG NO. 12386, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.


QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MAY BE SENT TO ADMINISTRATOR OF OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT, MR. EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA JR. AT [EPI.CABRERA@GOV.MP](mailto:EPI.CABRERA@GOV.MP) BY 4:30 P.M. CHST., OCTOBER 09, 2024.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-305, 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

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**/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA JR.**  
STATE ADMINISTRATOR, OGM

**/S/ BRIEN S. NICHOLAS JR.**  
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**  
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055  
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962  
E-Mail Address: [cpa.admin@pticom.com](mailto:cpa.admin@pticom.com) • Website: [www.cnmiports.com](http://www.cnmiports.com)

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 09-2024**

**Opening date: September 16, 2024**

**Closing date: October 04, 2024**

<b>Location:</b> SAIPAN	<b>SALARY</b>
<b>Position(s):</b> (1) Custodial-I (1) Ports Police Officer-I (2) General Maintenance-I	PL 1/1 to 1/12 (\$7.26/hr to \$12.42/hr) PL 7/1 to 7/12 (\$9.73/hr. to \$16.65/hr) PL 3/1 to 3/12 (\$8.01/hr to \$13.70/hr)
<b>Location:</b> TINIAN	<b>SALARY</b>
<b>Position(s):</b> (1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (1) General Maintenance-II (1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer	PL 5/1 to 5/12 (\$8.83/hr to \$15.10/hr) PL 5/1 to 5/12 (\$8.83/hr to \$15.10/hr) PL 7/1 to 7/12 (\$9.73/hr to \$16.65/hr)
<b>Location:</b> ROTA	<b>SALARY</b>
<b>Position(s):</b> (1) General Maintenance-II (1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer	PL 5/1 to 5/12 (\$8.83/hr to \$15.10/hr) PL 7/1 to 7/12 (\$9.73/hr to \$16.65/hr)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office, Tinian International Airport, or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than 5:00 P.M. on **Friday, October 04, 2024.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays and austerity, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at [lorna.robert@cnmiports.com](mailto:lorna.robert@cnmiports.com) and [hrrspecialist@cnmiports.com](mailto:hrrspecialist@cnmiports.com) or by phone at (670)237-6500.

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LEO B. TUDELA  
Executive Director

## STAR

From page 1

LLC who were previously operating Marianas Southern Airways until the airline stopped operating last year.

In the lawsuit, there are two counts in filed against Southern Airways, one alleging an attempt to monopolize the airline industry market in the Northern Mariana Islands, in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, and the other alleging that Southern Airways conspired with its co-defendants to unreasonably restrain trade in that market, in violation of Section 2 of the Sherman Act. 15 U.S.C. §§1-2.

Both claims were based upon a sole source contract entered into between the government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and defendant Marianas Pacific Express LLC doing business as Marianas Southern Airways—a joint venture between defendant Southern Airways and defendant Keith Stewart—an interisland air passenger and cargo service in the Northern Mariana Islands.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## FLIGHTS

From page 1

Star Marianas, who has been providing unreimbursed transportation for U.S. Customs and Border Patrol personnel to and from Saipan, has written to the Commonwealth Ports Authority informing the agency that they intend to discontinue providing these unreimbursed services.

"This letter is a follow up on the letter sent on Sept. 2, 2024, regarding Star Marianas Air's decision to discontinue providing unreimbursed transportation for USCBP personnel between Saipan and Rota as of Oct. 1, 2024. As of today, I have yet to receive any response from you or the other recipients," said Star Marianas board chair Robert Christian.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)



# Accessing Democracy

Directed by Jack Rosen

Produced by National Disability Rights Network

Join NMPASI on September 21, 2024 at 2pm at the American Memorial Park Theater for a first look screening of the new documentary "Accessing Democracy".

**Did you know that over 1 in 4 voters has a disability?**

**Most politicians don't know that!**



That's why we're proud to screen "Accessing Democracy" a film about voters in our community and the solutions they want. Made by and for people with disabilities, this documentary follows Monica Wiley as she travels the East Coast interviewing voters in the disability community about what they want from their elected representatives.

For more information about the screening and/or your rights as a voter with disabilities, please contact NMPASI at 235-7273/4 or visit us online at [www.nmpasi.org](http://www.nmpasi.org).

This ad is paid through funding from the Administration of Community Living (ACL) and do not necessarily reflect their official views.



## Bill prohibiting weekend utilities disconnections fails to make agenda

GUAM—The 37th Guam Legislature's Committee on Rules convened in the Guam Congress Building to determine the bills and resolutions that will be debated and voted on the floor during the September legislative session. Despite its potential impact on vulnerable and struggling island residents, Bill No. 290-37 (LS), which seeks to prohibit the disconnection of utility services on Fridays, failed to make the session's agenda.

Democrat Sen. Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas, author of the bill, said the legislation intended to protect vulnerable island residents from enduring up to two days without access to electricity or water.

"I'm disappointed that Bill 290-37 did not make it onto the session agenda," said

San Nicolas. "This legislation would have ended the unfair practice of restricting access to vital resources from our island residents and further limiting their ability to address the issue until the following business day. Sadly, this was a missed opportunity to shield our people from the hardships associated with weekend utility shut-offs."

Bill No. 290-37 would have mandated the Guam Power Authority and Guam Waterworks Authority to delay utility service disconnections scheduled for Fridays to the following Monday. While the measure sought to provide struggling customers more time to resolve billing issues and reduce the negative impacts of disconnections to vital services, it did not

hinder the ability of GWA and GPA to do disconnections. San Nicolas emphasized that the bill was designed to safeguard the public and ensure fairness in timing without compromising utility operations.

"Bill 290-37 put the needs of our people first by protecting them from unnecessary hardships and ensuring they are not left without essential services over the weekend. Though this bill failed to move forward, I remain committed to finding solutions that prioritize and safeguard the well-being of our community," San Nicolas said. "I look forward to working with my colleagues on this issue and ensuring that we shield our people from unfair government practices and needless adversities." (PR)

## NEW ROTA BOE MEMBER MEETS EDUCATION STAKEHOLDERS



PSS

Daniel "Danny" O. Quitugua, the newest member of the Board of Education representing Rota, was formally introduced to the staff and personnel of Sinapalo Elementary School and Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School last week by Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho, pictured on the right. In Aug. 30, 2024, Quitugua officially took office, replacing retired Army Sgt. Maj. Herman Manglona Atalig, who resigned in June to concentrate on his health. Camacho accompanied Quitugua for a meeting of Rota's public education stakeholders which was held at the Sinapalo Elementary School cafeteria.

### AMENDED MINIMUM BID: VEHICLE FOR AUCTION 2020 HONDA CR-V (COLOR: WHITE) LOW MILEAGE: 17,392 EXCELLENT CONDITION



#### Vehicle Features:

EX-L Sport Utility 4D	4-Cyl, Turbo 1.5 Liter
Automatic SUV	All Wheel Drive
Push Button Start	Sun-Roof
Keyless Entry	Light Brown Leather Seats
Power Door Locks	Bluetooth Wireless
Power Tailgate Release	Multi-View Camera

Bids will be closed on

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024 AT 4:00 P.M.**

The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all offers. The vehicle will be sold to the highest bidder "as is, where is" without any warranties – **Amended Minimum bid is \$24,000.00**. All bids must be received by 4:00p.m.

Please call Bank of Guam through its counsel, Robert T. Torres at (670) 234-7859 - (670) 234-5750 to schedule an inspection. Vehicle bid form can be obtained at:

**ROBERT TENORIO TORRES**  
Attorney at Law  
Chalan Kiya  
P.O. Box 500730 CK  
Saipan, MP 96950

**OCTOBER 25, 2024**

# Tinian AG FAIR

**Tinian, Taga Park | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**REGISTER TO ENTER YOUR ANIMALS!**  
please scan THE QR CODE!  
with your smartphone camera or visit: [bit.ly/TIQAGREG24](https://bit.ly/TIQAGREG24)

**Deadline to Register:**  
September 23, 2024

**For more information:**  
and/or help with registration, please call  
Ms. Maria Aguon at (670) 237-9210

**5TH ANNUAL TAGA FESTIVAL**

**Co-Sponsor: Office of Senator Jude U. Hofschneider and the 23rd Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation**

**Logos:** Northern Marianas College (NMC), CREES (Cooperative Research, Extension, & Education Services), CNMI Green Growth Initiative.



# OIA advances \$257.4M to USVI, Guam for estimated tax payments

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—The Office of Insular Affairs has transferred payments of \$181,068,638 to the U.S. Virgin Islands and \$76,402,101 to Guam. These payments represent an advance of fiscal year 2025 estimated rum tax cover over payments to the USVI and fiscal year 2025 federal income tax Section 30 advance payments to Guam.

“The Department of the Interior works closely with the U.S. Department of Treasury to ensure that these critical funds for the territories are calculated and transmitted as

quickly as possible,” said Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor.

Under the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands (48 USC Chapter 12 Section 1541), any excise tax collected on rum manufactured in the USVI and exported from the territory to the United States is transferred back to or “covered over” to the USVI. The USVI Government submits an advance estimate of rum excise taxes to OIA on an annual basis so that a payment can be made by September of

each fiscal year. Any adjustments are calculated and paid based upon amounts advanced from rum excise taxes derived from the USVI and actual receipts collected by the federal government. The fiscal year 2025 advance payment to the USVI Government was calculated using the \$10.50 per proof gallon rate, as provided for under current law (Public Law 98-369).

Under Guam’s Organic Act, federal income taxes derived from active members of the United States Armed Forces and pensions paid to retired ci-



Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor

vilian and military employees of the United States, or their survivors, who reside in, or who are domiciled in Guam,

are annually “covered over” to the Guam Treasury to support the operations, activities, and programs of the local government (48 U.S. Code 1421 Section h). The Guam Government submits an advance estimate of these income taxes to OIA on an annual basis so that a payment can be made by September of each fiscal year. Any adjustments are calculated and paid based upon amounts advanced for income tax collections and actual income taxes collected.

The Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Af-

fairs and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out the Secretary of the Interior’s responsibilities for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Additionally, OIA administers and oversees federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. OIA also administers discretionary grants to all the Insular Areas. **(PR)**

## AHEC holds 1st dental assistants' graduation in over 30 years

**PALAU**—Through the College of Micronesia and Doctors and Dentist for Tomorrow, Palau Area Health Education Center at the Palau Community College was able to enroll Palauan students to join the Dental Assistant Program.

The program was completely funded by the DDFT grant and free for students to attend Penn Foster College distance learning program. This is the first Palau Cohort of Dental Assistants to graduate in 35 years. This opportunity came to light due to the shortage of oral health professionals and need for dental assistants. Dental assistant graduates include Jaime A. Scott, Jeanelle O. Adelbai, De'sirae Jo U. Pedro, and Melissalynn Rdechior.

The ceremony was attended by goal-oriented leaders who made the program possible and they are deputy director

Hawaii/Pacific Basin AHEC Office Erica Davis, Ministry of Health and Human Services Minister Gafaar J. Uherbelau, PCC president Dr. Patrick U Tellei, director of Palau AHEC Dr. Gregory Dever, chief of the Oral Health Division of Public Health and Human Services Janice Mathew, dental hygienist of MHHS dental hygienists Helen Remoket and Dorothy Skang, Bureau of Health Administration and Support Services' Ms. Arnice Yuji, PCC Board of Trustees chair Kione J. Isechal, dentists Dr. Nihla Reddin, Dr. Nikola Zitnik, and Dr. Hirotugi Nakano, and the director of PHHS Sherilynn Madraisau. Congratulations to all the graduates and PCC hopes to keep this program available to help both MHHS dental department and participants who wish to join. **(PR)**

### AMENDED MINIMUM BID: VEHICLE FOR AUCTION 2018 TOYOTA COROLLA (COLOR: WHITE) MILEAGE: 61,146

For more information, please contact the Bank of Guam through its counsel, Robert T. Torres at Telephone Numbers (670) 234-7859 - (670) 234-5750.



Bids will be closed on  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024 AT 4:00 P.M.**

The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all offers

The vehicle will be sold to the highest bidder “as is, where is” without any warranties – **Amended Minimum bid is \$10,000.00**  
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Chalan Kiya  
P.O. Box 500730 CK  
Saipan, MP 96950

**5TH ANNUAL**

**GINEPTIN HA'ANEN TGA FESTIVAL**

**OCT. 25, 2024 - OCT. 26, 2024**

**TINIAN, FIESTA GROUNDS**

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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Could have Tyreek Hill's traffic stop ended differently? Miami-Dade needs the answer

The Tyreek Hill rough takedown case is still unfolding, but one thing has become clear: From the moment Miami-Dade police officers yanked the Dolphins star player by the neck from his gull-wing McLaren and forced him to the ground last Sunday, a routine traffic stop in South Florida became part of the painful, national discussion about driving while Black and use of force by police.

There's a lot we don't yet know about what happened when the Dolphins star player was pulled over by police, apparently for speeding, near Hard Rock Stadium. But it's becoming evident that officers missed the opportunity to de-escalate a situation that seemingly was sparked by Hill's failure to follow police orders to keep his car window rolled down.

Body-cam video that Miami-Dade police released on Monday evening—a welcome, if rare, example of speedy police transparency—has been enlightening. It shows a situation that escalated fast. An officer told Hill to roll down his window, and when that didn't happen, the officer rapidly pulled the 30-year-old football player out of the car, saying he was done playing games.

Hill was handcuffed and forced to the street. Later on, when he was standing up, still handcuffed, he was forced to the ground a second time.

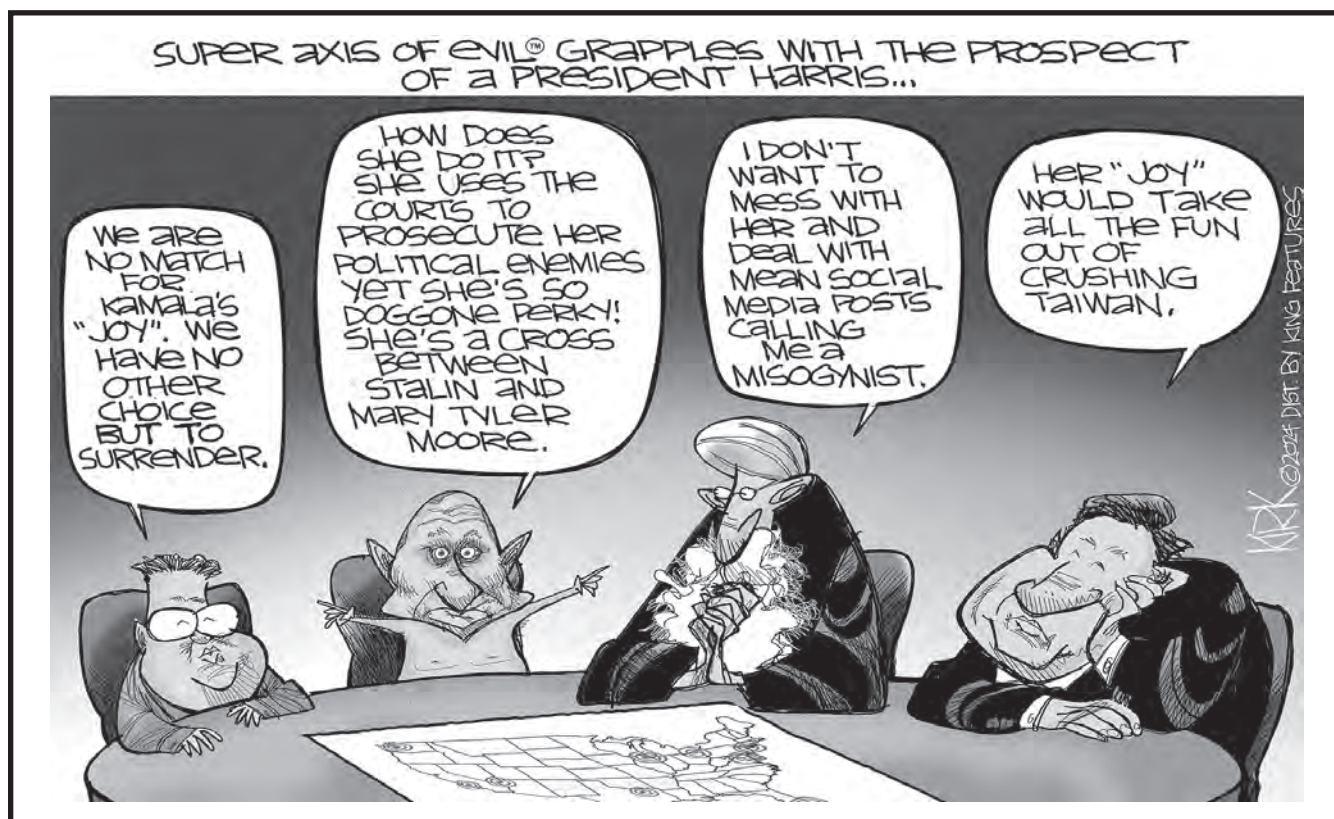
Drivers near the stadium recorded the encounter, posting the cellphone video. Watching it feels like a gut-punch: a top NFL star face down on the pavement, hands cuffed behind his back, with one officer kneeling on his back as others surround him. How many echoes of terrible encounters in the past does that image carry?

The community and national discussion this has triggered is vital. Did police overreact? How much did Hill's behavior affect what happened?

The fallout has just begun. One officer, 27-year veteran Danny Torres, was placed on administrative duty while an internal investigation is conducted. The Miami-Dade mayor issued a statement saying “the detaining officer acted in deeply troubling ways.” The two candidates running for Miami-Dade sheriff told the Miami Herald Editorial Board that they were disturbed by what they saw on the video.

Rosie Cordero-Stutz, the GOP nominee for sheriff and a county police administrator on leave during her campaign, called what she saw “unacceptable behavior from any law enforcement officer.” James Reyes, her Democratic opponent who oversees the police department as chief safety officer, said police using profanity — Hill was berated by an officer as being “f-----g confused”—is “concerning” and he criticized the “discourtesy” he saw.

Hill's actions weren't perfect. The wide receiver said Wednesday: “I will say I could've been better. I could've let down my window in that instant, but the thing about me is I don't want attention. I don't want to be cameras out, phones

See **COULD** on Page 9

## More debt is no climate solution for poor nations

Imagine you borrow \$1 million from me, and then I burn down your house and steal your car so you can't drive to work anymore. But then I offer you a one-year moratorium on debt payments to try to get your life back together while insisting the debt still be paid in full with the deferred interest tacked on to the principal.

On a scale from 1 to 10, with 10 being “most generous,” you would probably rank this deal as “Go directly to jail.” But it's not far from the bargain the U.S. and other rich countries are offering to low-income countries on the front lines of climate change.

The tiny Caribbean island nation of Grenada recently triggered a “hurricane clause” in its bonds that let it defer payments for a year, giving it some breathing room after the devastation of Hurricane Beryl. Bondholders are pretty much fine with this arrangement because, as Bloomberg News' Greg Ritchie notes, “Grenada's clause only defers coupon and principal payments. Its total debt servicing costs over the course of the bond will increase in nominal terms because the deferred interest is added to the principal, creating larger future interest payments.”

Win-win?

The problem here isn't the bondholders, who are providing Grenada the capital it needs for rebuilding. Beryl leveled the island of Carriacou, home to nearly 10,000 people, and shaved about a third from Grenada's GDP. The one-two punch of Hurricanes Ivan and Emily in 2004 and 2005, respectively, caused the country financial grief for a decade, including a default, and inspired the 2015 adoption of the hurricane clause. Private creditors are taking risks and should be paid for it.

More important, these sovereign bondholders accounted for just 11% of Grenada's roughly \$650 million in external debt as of the end of 2023. About two-thirds of all its debt was held by “multilateral” creditors, the biggest being the World Bank's International Development Association. Bilateral creditors held about 17%, the biggest of those being China.

To put that another way, two of Grenada's biggest lenders are also two of the world's biggest carbon polluters — the U.S., which is the World Bank's biggest shareholder, and China. Around the world, in fact, the developing nations most at risk of suffering extreme weather events as the planet heats up are often indebted to the same countries that have produced most of the greenhouse gases warping the climate.

Despite sitting right in the pipeline that carries tropical storms across the Atlantic, Grenada was hurricane free between 1970 and 2004. But three monster storms over the past 20 years have drastically impacted its people, economy and ability to repay debts. And hurricanes may become more frequent, and certainly more powerful, as the planet warms. Hotter ocean water provides fuel to rapidly strengthen storms, helping turn Beryl into the earliest Category 5 on record. (The previous record was held by Emily.) Other countries face a future of increasing drought and famine, floods, wildfires, disease and more.

Recognizing their part in causing this problem, rich nations way back in 2009 pledged to eventually provide \$100 billion in

By **MARK GONGLOFF**

Bloomberg Opinion

Mark Gongloff is a Bloomberg Opinion editor and columnist covering climate change. He previously worked for *Fortune.com*, the *Huffington Post* and the *Wall Street Journal*.



financing every year to low-income countries to help them fend off and adapt to climate change. They set a deadline of 2020 to hit that mark. They missed by a couple of years, not reaching their goal until 2022.

Ironically, even as the world's wealthiest nations reluctantly dug around in their couch cushions to scrape together that \$100 billion in 2022, the poorest were paying \$70 billion in debt-service payments, the Brookings Institution estimated, a rate likely to continue until at least 2025. As fast as poor countries could get financing in the door, they were shoveling most of it back out to creditors. Often they were exploiting fossil-fuel resources to raise cash.

That same year, high-income countries gave fossil fuels explicit and implicit subsidies of \$2.3 trillion, according to the International Monetary Fund. China chipped in an additional \$2.2 trillion. All told, the world gave \$7 trillion to an industry raking in record profits.

These priorities are profoundly wrong. Beyond the immorality of continuing to bankroll humanity's zeal for spewing greenhouse gases, wealthy nations have practical reasons to at least flip the stark imbalance between oil subsidies and climate financing on its head.

Developing nations want and deserve the same economic prosperity, clean water and air conditioning rich ones have had. Those rich nations concerned about climate change—all of them, supposedly—will want their poorer cousins to develop in ways that don't make global heating much worse. That will drive their own costs of fighting and adjusting to climate change far higher.

Countries that lack adequate social and physical infrastructure aren't prepared for the weather extremes to come. Places like Syria and Central America have already been the source of climate-driven migration to Europe and the U.S., reordering their politics in profound and troubling ways. That's just a taste of the disruption in store if we don't help these countries adapt.

Stuff like pushing more hurricane clauses on bondholders might help in some instances, but it's no solution. Wealthy nations should not only invest much more in the developing world, they should restructure and cancel debts, especially those tied to oil and gas projects. We should offer future relief and other financial aid in grants, not loans that add to already heavy debt burdens. Given we all live on the same planet, when we set fire to some other country's financial house, we're also torching our own.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# How Kamala Harris de-normalized Trump in less than 2 hours

In Tuesday night's presidential debate, Vice President Kamala Harris may or may not have increased her chances of becoming the 47th president. But she did what so many have tried, and failed, to do.

She de-normalized Donald Trump.

For years, various politicians and pundits have yelled themselves hoarse over the danger of normalizing Trump's chicanery, casual mendacity, outrageous divisiveness and outright criminal behavior. For years, the media have attempted to contextualize a candidate/president/insurrectionist/candidate who often dismisses the most time-honored rules of American politics (including the peaceful transfer of power) and continues to feed his not-inconsiderable number of supporters a diet of self-aggrandizement and grievance.

Not surprisingly, outrage itself has become normalized too. For President Biden and now Democratic nominee Harris, every word, action and expression is analyzed with granular intensity. Meanwhile, Trump's familiar litany of untruths and increasingly nonsensical speeches is regularly glossed as "Trump being Trump."

MSNBC's Lawrence O'Donnell recently called out the New York Times and other media outlets for surrendering to "sane-washing," which is how he described attempts to "edit Donald Trump's crazy statements down to a shape that allows them to then make sense of them."

So what do you do with a man who believes that if you

repeat a series of lies often and loudly enough they will somehow become truths?

You get him a room and you make him do it on live television.

In less than two hours this week, Harris showed America that it is not normal for a candidate to be more concerned about the size of his rallies than he is about women bleeding out in parking lots because restrictive abortion laws have made doctors skittish about treating miscarriages. That it's not normal for a former American president to praise dictators and deride NATO, to promote the racist lie that Haitian immigrants are eating dogs and cats in Ohio, to continue to insist that he won an election he lost. That it's not normal for a man convicted of 34 felonies to claim to believe in law and order.

Harris set traps for Trump so obvious that a child, never mind a man who has participated in three sets of presidential debates, could have seen them a mile away. And, like a child, he walked into each and every one confident that he could talk his way out.

Which he definitely tried to do. During the debate, hosted by ABC and moderated by David Muir and Linsey Davis, Trump spoke for five more minutes than Harris, often pushing back against the moderators' attempts to cut him off, and managed to get the last word on every topic.

But when that talk forced the moderators to step in and point out that um, no, infanticide is not legal in any state (after Trump once again insisted that some abortion-rights-advocating politicians are in favor of executing babies after birth) and that there have been no actual reports of Haitian immigrants eating dogs and cats in Ohio (which even Trump's running mate had agreed was false), it was difficult to see the former president as anything but, well, weird.

Along with the more mundane lies about skyrocketing crime rates (they are at record lows) and countries illegally sending mental-hospital patients into the United States (no evidence of this), Trump also managed to say things like: "She wants to do transgender operations on illegal aliens in prison" and "All I can say is I read where she was not Black, that she put out, and, I'll say that. And then I read that she was Black, and that's OK."

For people who are too young to remember a time when Trump was just a rich guy who cheated on his wives, there was a time when remarks like these would have never been part of a presidential debate. And as Harris made clear with an admirable range of facial expressions and come-to-Jesus rejoinders, they should not be considered normal now.

This is precisely what Harris and her running mate, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, have been trying to do over the past two months: Persuade voters that Americans deserve a president who does not view the United States as a postapocalyptic hellscape over which to reign but as a place with problems that can be fixed if we start treating each other with respect.

That's not just a vibe. Harris came to the debate determined to break through the almost decade-long attempt to defend, defuse or otherwise accept Trump's norm-breaking words, actions and expressions by proving that it isn't just dangerous. It's absurd.

As Trump seemed determined to prove, he can't keep himself from personal attacks (i.e., that President Biden secretly hates Harris, and Harris hates both Israelis and Arabs), or trying to gaslight voters (i.e., that overturning Roe made everyone happy and Trump had nothing to do with the Jan. 6 insurrection), or align himself with authoritarian figures (e.g., Hungary's Viktor Orban). Even when avoiding all of

been compliant.

Still, failure to obey a lawful order by an officer is serious, something Hill acknowledged during a press conference, saying, "I've got to follow rules, I've got to do what everyone else would do. Now, does that give them the right to literally beat the dog out of me? Absolutely not." Hill is no stranger to law enforcement, having previously pleaded guilty to domestic assault and battery by strangulation involving his pregnant girlfriend in 2015.

He also called for Torres to be fired, saying the officer should

By **MARY MCNAMARA**

Los Angeles Times



the above is in his own best interest.

Harris did nothing more, or less, than allow Trump to be Trump, un-sane-washed, while offering a very clear alternative. Her first action was to introduce herself to him and shake his hand, a professional courtesy that clearly took Trump by surprise and one he did not extend to her. Throughout the debate, Trump referred to the sitting vice president almost exclusively as "she" or "her"—though he did manage to name Biden often enough for Harris to remind him, "Clearly, I am not Joe Biden." He rarely if ever looked at her, choosing to glower at the moderators or the camera as if she were not there.

Harris, on the other hand, addressed Trump by his name or his title and often turned to speak to him directly. When, apropos of nothing, Trump offered the tired canard that Harris wants to "confiscate your guns," Harris admonished him to his face: "Tim Walz and I are both gun owners," she said, with an exasperated firmness. "We're not taking anyone's guns away, so stop with the continuous lying about this stuff."

That moment alone was worth cheering for. Even as the nation reels from yet another school shooting, Trump continues to insist that any form of increased gun control will lead to people being stripped of their legally obtained weapons, despite the fact that, like Harris and Walz, most gun owners support some amount of more stringent measures.

Unlike Trump, who was easily baited into defending everything from attendance at his rallies to his negotiations with "Abdul ... the head of the Taliban" (Hibatullah Akhundzada was and remains the leader of the Taliban), Harris appeared to take nothing personally. She responded to Trump's repetition of remarks about whether or not she is Black not with a rebuke but with the reminder that most Americans are tired of divisiveness and just want to get along with their friends and neighbors.

She saved her anger and passion for when she spoke about women and girls suffering under increasingly restrictive abortion laws, the importance of supporting Ukraine and NATO and how many former military leaders who served under Trump now consider him "a disgrace."

If the debate was short on policy details, well, Harris offered more than Trump, who answered a question about healthcare by trashing the Affordable Care Act and then, when asked if he had an alternative, saying he had "a concept of a plan." (Harris answered the same question by saying she will grow ACA and continue her and Biden's success with capping out-of-pocket drug costs and capping insulin prices.)

After the debate, Trump claimed he won, but even the most dedicated sane-washers, including prominent Republicans, had to concede that Harris had dominated. Which made Trump's familiar day-after drumbeat—the moderators were biased, the debate rigged—feel less infuriating than embarrassing.

It really is time to stop with the continuous lying about this stuff.

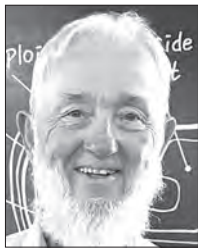
## Between the immensities

### LITERARY NOOK

By **JOEY CONNOLLY**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey Connolly aka "Pepe Batbon" is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. He is the Poet Laureate of Tinian and enjoys stargazing.



*Animism (from anima, soul, or spirit in Latin) is the belief that almost every place, every animal, every plant and every natural phenomenon has awareness and feelings, and can communicate directly with humans.*

### An aging animist's ambling account

The waters parted when Moses struck them after a teenage wedding many flowers wilted the rivers run the rivers flood and we know during winter the rivers freeze and then flow in summer creeks run dry brains and drains slow springtime in Paris Jenny's pears poach in wine Johnny jump ups and crocus usher in the spring Mickey Mouse Minnie Mouse, Goofy in the house groundhogs (woodchucks) their hibernation begin on Groundhog Day their shadow may be thin some hibernate on the couch all year round of birds and bees, they seldom hear a sound losing touch with their environment around TV weather news is what they hear and see they can learn about weather outside for free hurricanes typhoons and cyclones come and go over oceans with a large deadly circular flow.

## COULD

From page 8

on you in that moment."

Police take their lives into their hands when they pull someone over. A rolled-up tinted window causes automatic concern, understandably so. In this case, Hill had already handed over his license when he rolled his window back up, so he had initially

be "gone. Gone. Gone. Gone."

How Miami-Dade police and the community come out of this difficult moment is still unclear. But the work has begun. Miami-Dade County's Black Affairs Advisory Board discussed on Wednesday the dehumanizing nature of such encounters, Hill's conduct and questions about police de-escalation.

Trust in law enforcement is critical. Moments like this can erode trust—or help build it.

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# House passes bill to further strengthen partnerships between US, Pacific Island nations

WASHINGTON, D.C.— U.S. Congressman Ed Case (D-HI) announced that the U.S. House of Representatives has passed H.R. 7159, his proposed Pacific Partnership Act, to further increase U.S. engagement in the critical Pacific region.

Case, a co-chair and founding member of the first-ever Congressional Pacific Islands Caucus, introduced the measure together with 25 other bipartisan colleagues.

“Our country’s Indo-Pacific strategy states in no uncertain terms that no region is of more consequence to the world and to everyday Americans than the Indo-Pacific,” said Case in remarks during full House debate on the measure. “The United States and our allies and partners around the world who are aligned with an international rules-based order share the common vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific whose governance, priorities, goals and prosperity are determined by the countries of the Indo-Pacific without manipulation and dominance by malicious actors.

“This is especially true of the Pacific Islands themselves, in the heart of the Pacific, which today face the challenges of increased natural

disasters and human and drug trafficking, economic sustainability, threats to democracy and more. It is crucial that the United States continue to extend our hand of full partnership in assisting the countries of the Pacific to meet these challenges, as we have for generations.”

The Pacific Partnership Act requires an annually-updated Strategy for Pacific Partnership that sets specific goals for United States engagement with the Pacific Islands, assesses the threats and pressures to the region and a plan to address such threats, and analyzes the needs and goals of the Pacific Islands in the context of the national interests of the United States. The bill also requires the strategy to be developed in consultation with the governments of Pacific Islands countries, ensuring that the United States follows through on its commitment to support Pacific-led priorities. The bill further extends diplomatic courtesies to the Pacific Islands Forum, the primary multilateral organization of the Pacific Islands nations, and requires increased collaboration in U.S. efforts in the Pacific with ally and partner nations including Australia, New Zealand, and Japan.

“I am honored to co-lead this bipartisan legislation with Congressman Case that builds off of the actions of successive administrations to strengthen United States engagement in the Pacific Islands,” said Congressman Andy Barr (R-KY). “It is essential that the United States demonstrates that we are not merely interested in the region, but we are invested in an evolving, enduring relationship with our Pacific Islands partners.

“This important, forward-looking legislation ensures that all arms of the United States government are in coordination to support a rules-based order and address threats to sovereign nations across the region.”

“As a Pacific nation, the United States has a responsibility to engage and strengthen the partnerships that have ensured the region’s security and prosperity for decades,” said Congressman Gregory W. Meeks (D-NY), the ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which approved Case’s bill unanimously. “This legislation will ensure future administrations build on President Biden’s leadership to maintain our focus on the Pacific Islands.”

“I want to thank Congressman Case for this much-needed bipartisan bill, said Congresswoman Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen (R-AS). “The United States is a Pacific nation, and our region is critically important to U.S. interests. While Congress has extended the Compacts of

Free Association for another 20 years for three Pacific Island countries, there are 11 other nations who need our attention. The United States has enduring cultural, historic, economic, and people-to-people connections with the Pacific Islands. The Pacific Partnership Act will go far in providing better focus for U.S. engagement with Pacific Island nations.”

“The United States is a Pacific nation, and it is critical that we partner with our friends in the Pacific to tackle shared challenges including climate resilience, healthcare, and economic development,” said Congressman Ami Bera, M.D. (D-CA). “This bill designates the Pacific Islands Forum as an international organization with diplomatic privileges and encourages the establishment of a PIF mis-

sion in America. The bill also solidifies our commitment to the region by codifying the Pacific Partnership Strategy. By strengthening our diplomatic presence in the region, we ensure that the United States remains a reliable partner in promoting a free, resilient, and prosperous Pacific.”

“The Pacific Partnership Act bolsters our longstanding relationship with the Pacific Islands, a crucial region in our defense against the Chinese Communist Party,” said Congressman Steve Womack (R-AR). “This bill strengthens our partnerships and supports American defense. This is particularly meaningful to my constituents in Northwest Arkansas, given the high concentration of Marshallese in our region. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill and am pleased it passed the House.”

“We must counter ongoing aggression from the PRC by building effective relationships with our allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region,” said Congressman Ted Lieu (D-CA). “The Pacific Partnership Act would support diplomatic, strategic and economic relationships in the Indo-Pacific and strengthen our defenses against CCP aggression. I am pleased to have been a cosponsor on this important bill and am hopeful that it will be signed into law.”

“Throughout my career, I have witnessed firsthand the critical importance of American leadership in the Indo-Pacific,” said Congressman Neal Dunn, M.D. (R-FL). “Continuing the crucial partnership to strengthen diplomatic, economic, and security ties with the Pacific Islands is essential to counteract the malign influence of the Chinese Communist Party.

“The Pacific Partnership Act benefits both America and the Indo-Pacific. The U.S. must continue to show strength and promote regional stability and cooperation.”

“The U.S. shares a long history with the Pacific Islands, and we must continue to prioritize our diplomatic, economic, and security relationships in the region,” said Congresswoman Katie Porter (D-CA). “Pacific Islanders abroad and in the U.S. are counting on us to counter Chinese aggression, right our historic wrongs, and strengthen our cooperation with these important partners. As a member of the Natural Resources Committee’s Indo-Pacific Taskforce and a cosponsor of the Pacific Partnerships Act, I’m glad we are moving forward on developing a forward-looking framework to help shape U.S. policy in the Indo-Pacific for the years to come.”

“The Pacific Partnerships Act stands to shift America’s perspective of global affairs, by acknowledging our country’s deep cultural ties to the Pacific and refocusing on the region as core to national security,” said Congressman James Moylan (R-Guam).

“The bill’s requirement for consecutive national strategies on Pacific will provide continuity and focus to our nation’s engagement with Pacific partners. I thank Rep. Case for his work on this bill, and his specific focus on elevating small Pacific island communities such as Guam.”

“The U.S.’s longstanding partnerships with the Pacific Islands are critical to national security. The Pacific Partnership Act, which I was proud to cosponsor, ensures we have a strategy for engaging with nations in the Indo-Pacific region and sets us up to support our allies while also preserving U.S. diplomatic, economic, and security interests,” said Congressman Donald Norcross (D-NJ). “Today, I was pleased to see this legislation pass the House of Representatives, marking an important step forward in enhancing our national security.”

“Supporting our friends and allies in the Indo-Pacific is essential to guaranteeing American security in the region and across the world,” said Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL). “This legislation will bolster security, stability, and growth across the Pacific Islands while expanding collaboration on efforts to combat the Chinese Communist Party’s continuing aggression.”

“A strong Indo-Pacific is critical for our national security and economy,” said Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland (D-WA). “The Pacific Islands are key partners, and the Pacific Partnership Act further solidifies our relationship and diplomacy with them.”

Case continued: “As ourselves a Pacific nation for over two centuries, we have enjoyed a mutually beneficial partnership with the Pacific Islands which only continues to increase in historic, economic, cultural and strategy significance.

“Our Pacific Partnership Act advances the breadth and depth of our engagement with the Pacific Islands on issues of particular importance to the Pacific Islands, as recently reconfirmed in the Pacific Islands Forum summit in Tonga. In doing so, we advance the mutual national and international interests of like-minded nations throughout the Indo-Pacific who are committed to an international rules-based democratic order.” (PR)



Case

## WANTED: CORRESPONDENTS

*Hafa Adai!*

# Saipan Tribune

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# Life & Style

## Sean 'Diddy' Combs is arrested after federal indictment

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Sean "Diddy" Combs was arrested late Monday in New York, where he faces a sealed criminal indictment, prosecutors announced late Monday.

Details of the charges

weren't immediately announced by prosecutors, but the hip-hop mogul has faced a stream of allegations by women in recent months who accused him of sexual assault.

The U.S. attorney in Manhattan, Damian Williams,

said in a statement that federal agents arrested Combs. "We expect to move to unseal the indictment in the morning and will have more to say at that time."

Combs' lawyer, Marc Agnifilo, issued a statement saying: "We are disappointed with the decision to pursue what we believe is an unjust prosecution of Mr. Combs by the U.S. Attorney's Office."

He added that Combs had gone to New York last week in anticipation of the charges being brought.

"He is an imperfect person, but he is not a criminal," Agnifilo said.

Combs was arrested in a Manhattan hotel lobby and is



AP  
Sean "Diddy" Combs arrives at the LA Premiere of "The Four: Battle For Stardom" at the CBS Radford Studio Center on May 30, 2018, in Los Angeles.

in federal custody, said a person familiar with the arrest who spoke with The Associ-

ated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly.

The criminal charges are a major but not unexpected takedown of one of the most prominent producers and most famous names in the history of hip-hop.

The federal investigation of the 58-year-old Combs was revealed when Homeland Security Investigations agents served simultaneous search warrants and raided Combs' mansions in Los Angeles and Miami on March 25.

His defense attorney Aaron Dyer the day after the raids called them "a gross use of military-level force," said the allegations were "meritless," and said Combs was "innocent and will continue to fight" to clear his name.

## Tito Jackson, member of beloved pop group the Jackson 5, dies at 70

Tito Jackson, one of the brothers who made up the beloved pop group the Jackson 5, has died. He was 70.

Jackson was the third of nine children, including global superstars Michael and Janet, and was part of a music-making family whose songs have sold hundreds of millions of copies.

"It's with heavy hearts that we announce that our beloved father, Rock & Roll Hall of Famer Tito Jackson is no longer with us. We are shocked, saddened and heartbroken. Our father was an incredible man who cared about everyone and their well-being," his sons TJ, Taj and Taryll Jackson said in a statement posted on Instagram late Sunday.

The Jackson 5, among the last of the major groups launched through Berry Gordy's Motown empire, included teenage and pre-teen brothers Jackie, Tito, Jermaine, Marlon and lead singer Michael. Gordy signed them up in the late 1960s, when Motown's power was slipping and tastes were shifting from the slick pop-

soul of Motown's prime to the funkier sounds of Sly and the Family Stone.

"I Want You Back," the group's breakthrough hit, was openly modeled on Sly and the Family Stone and topped the charts in 1969. The Jacksons followed with three more No. 1 songs, "ABC," "The Love You Save" and "I'll Be There," and also hit the top 5 with "Mama's Pearl" and "Never Can Say Goodbye."



Jackson

Some called their music "bubblegum soul."

By mid-decade, the Jackson 5's appeal was fading and the group, except Jermaine, moved to Epic and renamed themselves the Jacksons. Their latter hits included "Enjoy Yourself," "Lovely One" and "Shake Your Body (Down to the Ground)." Michael Jackson became a multi-platinum solo artist in the 1980s and his collaborations with his brothers became rare after the 1984 album "Victory."

The Jackson 5 was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997, introduced at the ceremony by longtime friend Diana Ross.

## On jury duty, Letterman auditioned for role he's never gotten

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The longtime host of "The Late Show with David Letterman" found himself answering questions rather than asking them when a federal judge in New York City put the entertainer through an audition of sorts on Monday for a possible role as a juror in a criminal trial.

It was the serious setting of a criminal trial over a cryptocurrency fraud when Judge P. Kevin Castel confronted the famous bearded comedian, identified in court only as "Juror 16," with questions just as he did three dozen other potential jurors to determine who would be on a panel of 12 jurors and four alternates.

The prospective jurors had already survived a general round of questioning in which individuals are dismissed for hardship reasons, such as medical issues or jobs from

which they cannot be spared. The trial is expected to last less than two weeks.

When Letterman, who stepped down from his show in 2015, made it to what could be the final round for admittance on the jury, the judge lobbed a softball: "Where do you live?"

"Hartford," Letterman responded, proving that he couldn't make it through a single word without delivering a joke.

"No, it's a joke," Letterman quickly let the judge know. Hartford is in Connecticut, which would have disqualified him from the jury because it is outside the area where jurors are drawn from.

"Nice try," the judge responded, adding, "You figured you would forgo Queens," another location outside the area covered by the Southern District of New York. Queens is



AP  
David Letterman arrives at federal court in New York, Monday Sept. 16, 2024.

located in the Eastern District of New York.

After Letterman revealed his true area of residence—Westchester County—the pair began a volley of questions and answers totaling nearly three dozen exchanges.

Along the way, the judge,

lawyers and three dozen or so prospective jurors learned a lot that the world already knows about Letterman. He was born in Indianapolis, obtained a degree from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, and has a 20-year-old son in college in Massachusetts.

## Some conversations can look more like an interrogation

**DEAR ABBY:** I appreciate you offering your booklet "How to Be Popular" to people who are uncomfortable or uncertain in social situations. I don't know if the following tips are included, but here's what I do: When I meet someone for the first time, I say, "Tell me three things about yourself that you would like to share." As I listen to the response, I think of the "W" words -- who, what, when, where and why. Then, for elaboration, I ask one of those questions, or perhaps more, a few minutes later. I hope these suggestions are helpful.

BOB W. IN NORTH CAROLINA

**DEAR BOB:** Showing an interest in others is generally a good idea. However, some people might find your direct approach intimidating if it's a conversation starter with no preamble. Asking who, what, when, where and why can be useful in conversation, as it also is when writing a news article.

Making social conversation doesn't come naturally to everyone. Few individuals are adept at it because they are so focused on their own insecurities that it distracts them from reaching out. It can, however, be practiced and polished until it becomes second nature.

**My booklet "How To Be Popular" contains many useful tips for accomplishing this. It can be ordered by sending your name and address, plus a check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds), to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. It is meant for people of all ages and covers a variety of situations.**

**The keys to being socially successful are: Be kind. Be honest. Be tactful. Offer a compliment if you think it is deserved. Be a good listener, and people will think you are a genius. (It's true!) And remember, a smile is an excellent icebreaker because it puts those around you at ease.**

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I am in my late 20s. My mom and dad will soon have been married for 30 years. I accidentally found evidence recently that Mom is having an extramarital affair. When I confronted her, she said I should go to therapy to help deal with my overreaction to her "doing something I don't like." She totally ignored the fact that it's not just a minor thing that I'm upset about, but something wrong, immoral, hurtful and disrespectful to my dad, my brother and me.

Mom and I were very close, but this has ruined our relationship. I feel like she is putting reconciliation all on me, which

## DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



feels unfair. What do I do?

THROWN IN MARYLAND

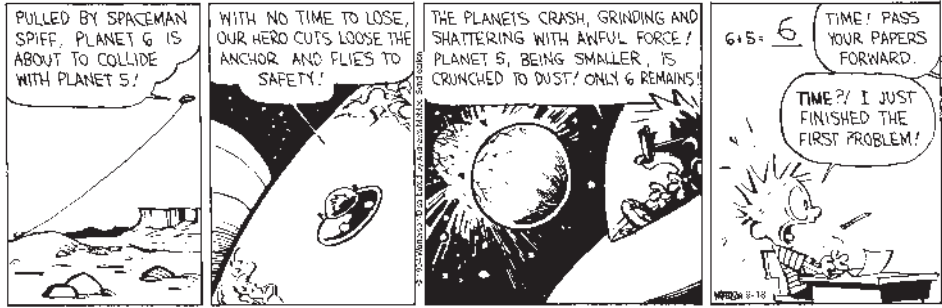
**DEAR THROWN:** I am sure that what you discovered was a shock. However, you know nothing about the reason(s) your mother may be having an extramarital affair and whether your father knows about it. What's going on has nothing to do with you and your brother. Please take your mother's advice. Discuss this mess and your feelings about it with a licensed family therapist, and you may gain some insight.



Pastimes

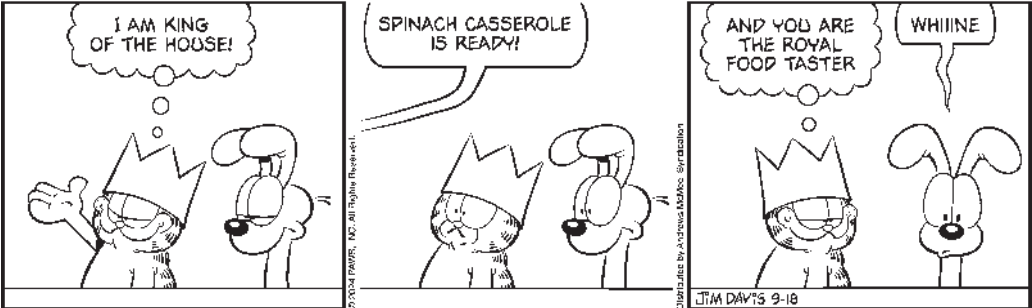
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



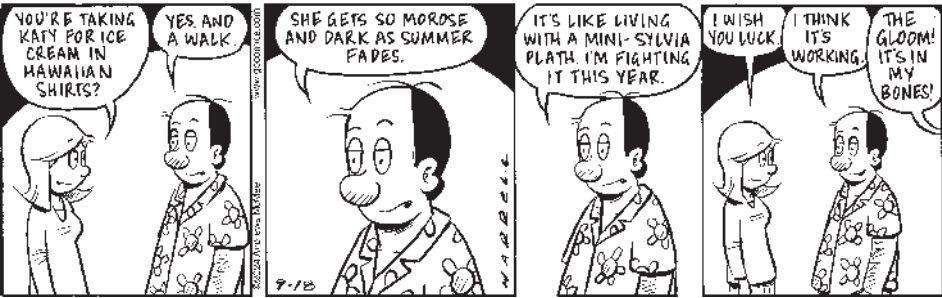
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



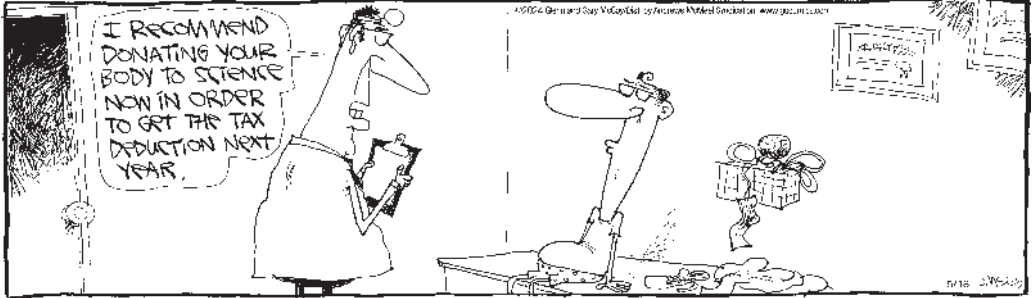
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Baby elephant 5 "Wham!" 8 Last write-up 12 Always 13 Aussie hopper 14 Fast runner 15 Restaurant kitchen worker 17 Tag sale words 18 Early Mongolian 19 Exit 21 Hawaiian coast 24 Crony 25 Veers suddenly 28 Tennis star Raducanu 30 Under the weather 33 Jurist Lance 34 "Caddyshack" director 35 Scot's refusal 36 PBS supporter 37 Relaxing refuges 38 Kitten calls

39 Tipsy 41 March Madness gp. 43 Collapse 46 Espresso froth 50 "Would — to you?" 51 Budget entry 54 — St. Vincent Millay 55 Hollywood's Thurman 56 Museo display 57 Sense 58 Tofu source 59 Dame Myra at the piano

2 Athletic shoe brand 3 Pre-Easter period 4 Aberrations 5 Expert 6 Tic-tac-toe win 7 Stirred 8 Butler's love 9 Tennis server's spot 10 Rainbow 11 Actress Harper 16 — Magnon sequence 20 Transcript stats 22 Tide variety 23 Capital of Jordan

25 California wine, for short 26 Mineral suffix 27 Ball-carrier's destination (Abbr.) 31 Attorney's profession 32 Guitar great Paul 34 Alpha-betic 38 "Butterfly" singer 40 Perfect 42 Expert serve 43 Feudal estate 44 Shoppe descriptor 45 Asset 47 To be, in Paris 48 Citi Field team 49 Iowa city 52 Texter's "I think" 53 Dissenting vote

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-18

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Sudeikis, 49; James Marsden, 51; Jada Pinkett Smith, 53; Aisha Tyler, 54.

**Happy Birthday:** Evaluate your life, dreams, hopes and desires, and act accordingly. You are ready for change, but whatever you pursue must be well-thought-out and executed precisely. Once you have a plan, it will lift your spirits and help you release stress. Get out, test what's available and proceed with confidence and the knowledge to reach your goal. Spend your time, energy and money wisely. Your numbers are 8, 15, 24, 27, 32, 35, 44.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Refrain from falling into a trap set by someone looking for an argument. Channel your energy into home or self-improvement or sorting through clutter and clearing a path to a simpler, less complicated life. Refuse to let uncertainty lead to waffling. Take responsibility and make your actions count. \*\*\*

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Do whatever is necessary to assess and figure out your next move. Travel, knowledge and experience are your best route forward. When in doubt, ask an expert to weigh in on your dilemma. A practical approach will offer reasonable solutions and peace of mind. \*\*\*

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Rethink every choice you make to avoid an impractical decision. Someone will try to push you in a direction that is less sound for you than it is for them. Being a follower will infringe on your freedom. Let your intuition guide you. \*\*\*\*\*

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Explore the possibilities and look for an opening that allows you to use your skills and broaden your prospects. A proactive approach to health and well-being will pay off. Handle your financial and

medical issues yourself; research will guide you to asking experts the right questions. \*\*\*\*\*

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Move things around and clear a space to house something you want to pursue. Broaden your horizons, make new connections and expand your awareness. Listen, learn and decipher what's best for you. Don't attach yourself to someone else's dream. Follow your heart. Romance is on the rise. \*\*\*

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Set high standards, cover your tracks and keep your plans and intentions to yourself. Don't allow uncertainty to show or put you in a vulnerable position. Be observant and cautious, and look out for your best interest; you'll achieve the desired outcome you want and the respect you deserve. \*\*\*

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put solid plans in place before deciding to move. Knowing what you want is half the battle. Listen, learn and evaluate instead of following the crowd. Explore what makes you happy and pursue directions that help build confidence and a healthy lifestyle. Romance is favored. \*\*\*

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Dig in and continue until you are satisfied with the results. Use your imagination and skills, and you'll be happy with what transpires. Don't waste time or energy worrying about things you cannot control. Embrace what's appealing to you and make things happen. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): An opportunity is only worthwhile if it helps you reach your goal. Don't sign up for something to please others when you need to put yourself first. Focus on self-improvement, personal growth, and looking and feeling your best. Walk away from anyone asking for too much. \*\*\*\*\*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take inventory. Follow your money trail and discover where it's gone and how to cut your overhead. Don't let emotions take over or lead you astray. Plan your actions and make the necessary changes, and it will ease stress and push you in a healthy direction. \*\*

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Pay attention to your schedule, routine and lifestyle. How you live and deal with your money, health and relationships will determine what unfolds and how others treat you. Be open to trying something new but do not be foolish regarding what you can afford. Set guidelines and put a budget in place. \*\*\*\*\*

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Pursue your dreams. Your discipline and hard work will pay off, encouraging you to trust and believe in your abilities. Refrain from letting outside influences make choices for you. Change begins with you. Own and control your actions and take responsibility for your happiness. \*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are cautious, timely and detailed. You are imaginative and curious.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

2 5 7 9 3 1 6 7 6 7 5 9 4 7 2 1 8 3 1 4 2 7 5 6 9 4 2 5 9 3 6 8 1 7 9 6 7 8 1 5 4 2 3 2 1 8 3 6 9 7 5 4 7 5 6 1 8 4 9 3 2 3 9 4 7 5 2 1 8 6 6 7 2 5 4 8 3 9 1 1 8 9 6 7 3 2 4 5 5 4 3 2 9 1 6 7 8

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

8 3 1 4 2 7 5 6 9 4 2 5 9 3 6 8 1 7 9 6 7 8 1 5 4 2 3 2 1 8 3 6 9 7 5 4 7 5 6 1 8 4 9 3 2 3 9 4 7 5 2 1 8 6 6 7 2 5 4 8 3 9 1 1 8 9 6 7 3 2 4 5 5 4 3 2 9 1 6 7 8

Difficulty: ★★★ 9/18 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

REAL ESTATE FEES Solution: 7 letters

N C S Y T N A R R A W R A L A O O N S C F I X T U R E T A D I T I E E T R U O C C S T V V T T E S P R L E E T E E O O E C A S O S O D T P I S T R R R U G N D N I A D D O I I N P T R E E N I L M R A N R S E P I T L C O U E A M U T H T Y A S S A I C S Y D L O S O I S I E N S L U K N Y L E C M S G T R O A O C T A X E S A E N N A E C H A T T E L S N S S E T K D A B V E N D O R S O G E G E A S R E Y W A L O F A M I L Y E H T E N D E R E A L T O R S L

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STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



# Cousins TD pass to London allows Falcons to rally past Eagles

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Oh, so this was what Atlanta expected out of \$180 million lavished on Kirk Cousins.

Certainly not a shaky effort like the 36-year-old veteran had in the opener, raising concerns in the loss about the quarterback's return to form from a torn Achilles tendon.

Cousins down the stretch made all the clutch throws in Philadelphia his counterpart Jalen Hurts could not—and sent the Falcons home winners.

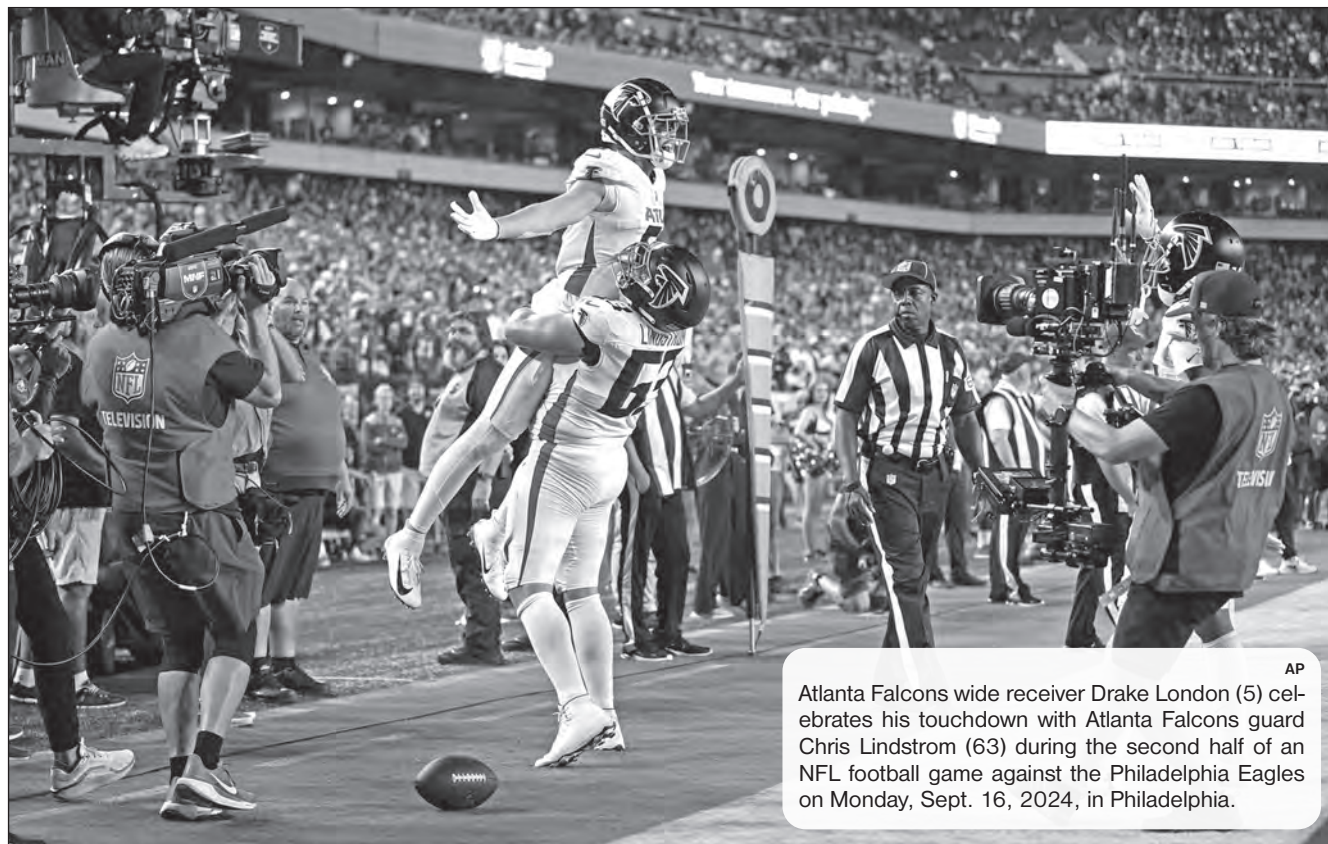
Cousins led a flawless last-minute drive for Atlanta and connected with Drake London for a 7-yard touchdown with 34 seconds left to give the Falcons a 22-21 victory over the Eagles on Monday night.

"He went out and played important in the biggest moments in the biggest times," Falcons coach Raheem Morris said. "Those are things you want to have happen when you have a chance to go out there and get wins. It was great to see today with Kirk Cousins."

Saquon Barkley dropped a short pass that stopped the clock with 1:46 left and forced the Eagles to settle for a field goal instead of a game-sealing first down. That was plenty of time for Cousins—especially against an Eagles defense playing soft coverage with a nonexistent pass rush.

Cousins, playing his second game since tearing his Achilles tendon last Oct. 29 while playing for Minnesota, shook off an uneven effort and hit Darnell Mooney for 21 and 26 yards on consecutive plays during the decisive drive.

Cousins found London on a short pass to his right for the tying score, and Youngbuck Koo



Atlanta Falcons wide receiver Drake London (5) celebrates his touchdown with Atlanta Falcons guard Chris Lindstrom (63) during the second half of an NFL football game against the Philadelphia Eagles on Monday, Sept. 16, 2024, in Philadelphia.

put Atlanta (1-1) on top with a 48-yard extra point after London was flagged for unsportsmanlike conduct. The go-ahead drive took just 65 seconds.

"We saved just enough time for those guys to go down and march down and get that game-winning touchdown," Morris said.

Hurts had his final pass intercepted by Jessie Bates III to seal Atlanta's win and set off a wild celebration on the sideline.

The Eagles (1-1) went ahead on Hurts' 1-yard tush push score with 6:47 left. Barkley finished with 95 yards on 22 carries in his home debut for Philadelphia, but his drop provided the Falcons with some hope.

And then Cousins started playing like the QB Atlanta thought it was getting when it signed him to a four-year, \$180 million contract.

Cousins finished 20 of 29 for 241 yards and two touchdowns. Atlanta's first TD was a 41-yarder from Cousins to Mooney, who finished with three catches for 88 yards.

Hurts was 23 of 30 for 183 yards, including a touchdown pass to DeVonta Smith. With No. 1 receiver A.J. Brown out with a hamstring injury, Smith led the Eagles with seven catches for 76 yards and a score.

Jake Elliott kicked two field goals for the Eagles. His 28-yarder with 1:39 left made it 21-15.

Atlanta kept stalling in the red zone, getting three field goals from Koo, before Cousins fired over the middle to Mooney, who shook loose from C.J. Gardner-Johnson and left him on the turf before he somersaulted into the end zone with 1:21 left in the third quarter for a 15-10 lead. Cousins failed on the 2-point

conversion pass.

Hurts had some juice in his step during a second-quarter TD drive, running with abandon for big plays much like he did in the 2022 season. He spiked the ball in a rare, raw show of emotion on a 23-yard run, earning a delay-of-game penalty. He shrugged off the 5-yard setback and scrambled for 9 yards and 15 yards to move the Eagles to Atlanta's 19.

With comedian Shane Gillis and actor Bradley Cooper among the fans cheering on the Eagles, Hurts connected with Smith in the back of the end zone for a 7-yard TD that made it 7-3.

Under new defensive coordinator Vic Fangio, the Eagles have established an early knack for allowing long drives that end with three points instead of seven. Koo kicked field goals of 39, 22 and 34 yards, the last one enough for

a 9-7 lead in the third quarter. In their opener, the Eagles held the Packers to just three field goals when they drove inside the 20.

"They made a couple more plays than we did down the stretch. We made some plays; they made more," Eagles coach Nick Sirianni said.

## An appeals court won't revive Brett Favre's defamation lawsuit against Shannon Sharpe

**NEW ORLEANS** (AP)—A federal appeals court refused Monday to revive a defamation lawsuit that former NFL quarterback Brett Favre filed against a fellow Pro Football Hall of Fame member—former tight end Shannon Sharpe.

Favre's filed the lawsuit over comments Sharpe made in 2022 on a Fox Sports show amid a developing Mississippi welfare scandal involving millions of dollars diverted to rich and powerful people.

Mississippi State Auditor Shad White said Favre improperly received \$1.1 million in speaking fees to go toward a volleyball arena at The University of Southern Mississippi, where Favre had played football and where his daughter was playing volleyball. The fees were from a nonprofit organization that spent Temporary Assistance for Needy Families money with approval from the state Department of Human Services.

Sharpe said Favre was "taking from the underserved," that he "stole money from people that really needed that money" and that someone would have to be a sorry person "to steal from the lowest of the low."

Favre was not charged with breaking the law and had paid back \$1.1 million. White said

"And that's on all of us. That starts with coaching and goes to the players. We are all responsible for the loss."

Rather than take a chip-shot field goal from Elliott, the Eagles' fourth-and-4 gamble at Atlanta's 9-yard line in the first quarter failed when Hurts threw an incomplete pass.

Elliott kicked a 29-yarder with 4:31 left in the third quarter for a 10-9 lead.

Bijan Robinson ran for 97 yards for the Falcons. The Eagles stuffed him late on fourth-and-1 at the Atlanta 39.

Barkley was quiet until the go-ahead drive, a week after he rushed for 109 yards and scored three touchdowns against Green Bay. Eagles fans booed when the opening drive of the game ended without Barkley touching the ball. They went wild when he had consecutive 9-yard runs to open the second drive. Barkley had 40 yards rushing in the first half.

Former Eagles QB Nick Foles, who led the franchise to its only Super Bowl title, served as an honorary captain and led the crowd in a rendition of "Fly, Eagles, Fly."

The Falcons played without LB Nate Landman (calf, quad).

## Elway, Bradshaw were benched as rookies and ended up in the Pro Football Hall of Fame

John Elway was replaced by veteran QB Steve DeBerg in his first two career starts with the Denver Broncos in 1983, and he was eventually benched after five games. Elway returned to the starting lineup in Week 11 and went on to have a Hall of Fame career, leading the Broncos to consecutive Super Bowl victories in his final two seasons in the NFL.

Overall, 36 quarterbacks have been selected No. 1 overall in the history of the NFL draft, including 28 in the Super Bowl era.

Here are five other quarterbacks picked first overall and when they were benched:

### Terry Bradshaw

After tossing 12 interceptions and only two touchdowns in his first seven starts for the

Pittsburgh Steelers in 1970, Bradshaw was benched for Terry Hanratty. Bradshaw started one more game that season but appeared in six more games. He became the full-time starter in 1971 but lost his job to Joe Gilliam in 1974 before taking it back.

Bradshaw would go on to help lead the Steelers to four Super Bowl titles and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1989.

### Troy Aikman

Selected first by the Dallas Cowboys in 1989, Aikman was 0-11 as a rookie starter for Jimmy Johnson's 1-15 team. He started 15 games his sophomore season and was 7-5 in 1991 before an injury knocked him out for the final four games. Steve Beuerlein led the Cowboys to four straight wins

and Johnson stuck with him for the playoffs even though Aikman was healthy and ready to go. Aikman started every game in 1992 and led the Cowboys to the first of three Super Bowls he'd win.

### Jameis Winston

Wasn't benched by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers until Week 9 of his fourth season in 2018. Winston then came off the bench to replace Ryan Fitzpatrick two weeks later and started the rest of that season. He started every game in 2019, throwing for 5,109 yards, 33 TDs and 30 picks in Bruce Arians' first season in Tampa Bay. The Buccaneers signed Tom Brady in 2020 and Winston went to New Orleans.

### JaMarcus Russell

Earned his first start for the

Raiders in the final game of his rookie season in 2007. Russell then started 15 games the following year and the first nine games in 2009 before he was benched permanently in Week 11. Russell threw 41 more passes in relief that season and never played again in the NFL.

### Tim Couch

Picked by the Cleveland Browns ahead of Donovan McNabb and Daunte Culpepper in 1999, Couch became the starter in Week 2 as a rookie. He stayed in the lineup and would help the Browns reach the playoffs in his fourth season, though he missed a wildcard loss to Pittsburgh because of an injury. Couch was benched for Kelly Holcomb in 2003 and played his last game that season. (AP)



# Tigers rally to beat Royals, gain ground on Twins



**KANSAS CITY, Mo.**  
(AP)—Colt

Keith hit a two-run homer, Matt Vierling had three hits while driving in the go-ahead run, and the Detroit Tigers rallied from an early four-run deficit to beat the Kansas City Royals 7-6 on Monday night in a crucial game for their playoff hopes.

Pinch-hitter Wenceel Pérez had the tying two-run double for Detroit, which began its final trip of the regular season by moving within 1 1/2 games of Minnesota for the final AL wild-card spot. The Twins lost to Cleveland earlier in the night.

"It was an incredible win because of how we were able to do it," Tigers manager A.J. Hinch said. "We didn't do much early, although our at-bats were pretty good. Started to chip away a little bit, a couple of really big swings, and then we held on."

Brenan Haniffee (1-1) earned the win in relief for Detroit, allowing one run and three hits over 2 1/3 innings. Jason Foley finished off a solid bullpen performance, working a perfect ninth to earn his 24th save and second in two days.

"The bullpen has been doing it all year for us," Keith said, "and they did it again tonight."

Bobby Witt Jr. hit a grand slam to stake Kansas City to a 4-0 lead, and he added a bunt single for a five-RBI game. But the Royals otherwise kept squandering chances to score, just as they did in their loss to the Pirates on Sunday.

Sam Long (3-2) took the loss for Kansas City, allowing three runs while retiring just two batters in relief of Seth Lugo.

"A lot of stuff happened in that game, clearly. It was an intense back-and-forth, both teams putting everything on the line," Royals manager Matt Quatraro said. "You get out to a lead, you feel pretty good. You know they're not going to go away."

Indeed, the Royals started their final homestand by taking advantage of what Detroit could not: the bases loaded.

The Tigers packed them in the third before Keith grounded out to second to end the threat. But when Kansas City loaded the bases in the bottom half—a leadoff walk from Adam Frazier, a single by Yuli Gurriel and a bunt single from Kyle Isbel—Witt hit a 1-1 pitch what seemed like a mile high and over the left-field wall for his second grand slam of the season.

**GUARDIANS 4, TWINS 3**  
**CLEVELAND** (AP)—



Kansas City Royals' Bobby Witt Jr. celebrates with teammates in the dugout after hitting a grand slam during the third inning of a baseball game against the Detroit Tigers Monday, Sept. 16, 2024, in Kansas City, Mo.

Rookie Kyle Manzardo hit a two-run, go-ahead homer in the eighth inning and Emmanuel Clase recorded his 46th save as the Cleveland Guardians rallied to beat the Minnesota Twins 4-3 on Monday night to tighten their grip on the AL Central.

With Josh Naylor on second after a leadoff double, Manzardo connected on the first pitch from Griffin Jax (4-5), sending it deep into the right-field seats for his third homer to trigger an eruption of joy in Cleveland's dugout.

Their 40th come-from-behind win moved the Guardians 7 1/2 games ahead of the defending division champion Twins. It also reduced Cleveland's magic number for clinching a playoff berth to two.

Clase, who has built a strong argument for Cy Young consideration, worked the ninth for his 33rd consecutive save and No. 46 this season, tying him with Jose Mesa (1995) for the club's single-season record.

Rookie Andrew Walters (1-0) picked up his first career win as Cleveland's top-ranked bullpen bailed out starter Matthew Boyd, who didn't get out of the third.

**METS 2, NATIONALS 1, 10 INNINGS**

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Starling Marte lined a game-ending single in the 10th inning that lifted New York to a critical win over Washington.

New York moved a game ahead of rival Atlanta for the final National League wild card when the Braves were blown out 9-0 at home by the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Playing again without Francisco Lindor, who will be sidelined for a few days due to a sore back, the Mets got just two runners beyond first base

in the first seven innings. But then Jose Iglesias, replacing Lindor at shortstop and atop the lineup, hit an RBI infield single off the glove of reliever Derek Law with two outs in the eighth.

In the 10th, automatic runner Harrison Bader advanced from second base to third on a flyout to deep right field by Francisco Alvarez.

**DODGERS 9, BRAVES 0**  
**ATLANTA** (AP)—Freddie Freeman hit a three-run homer against his former team and Los Angeles beat Atlanta, dropping them out of a playoff position.

Shohei Ohtani was 0 for 4 with a walk and a pair of run-scoring grounders that increased his RBIs total to 108. He did not hit a home run or steal a base during the series, remaining at 47 home runs and 48 steals as he tries to become the first 50-50 player.

Yoshinobu Yamamoto allowed four hits and two walks in four innings, throwing 72 pitches in his second start since returning from a right arm injury - up from 59 on Sept. 10. The Dodgers extended their scoreless streak to 15 innings and pitched their 13th shutout.

NL West-leading Los Angeles (89-61) began the night 3 1/2 games behind second place San Diego. The Dodgers scored nine runs on just four hits for the second time since 1906: The other was on June 4, 2021, also at Atlanta. After losing the first two games of the series by a combined 16-3, the Dodgers outscored the Braves 18-2 over the last two.

**CUBS 9, ATHLETICS 2**  
**CHICAGO** (AP)—Shota Imanaga struck out a career-high 11 in winning his fifth straight start, Dansby Swanson homered while

tying his season high with four RBIs and Chicago defeated Oakland.

Chicago remained five games behind the New York Mets for the final NL wild card with 12 games remaining.

Imanaga (14-3) allowed five hits over six innings, including Brent Rooker's 38th homer, a two run-drive in the third. The 31-year-old left-hander walked three.

Rooker went deep for the second straight game and added a single as Oakland lost its third straight. The previous two were at the White Sox, who had not won back-to-back games in nearly three months.

Isaac Paredes and Miguel Amaya each had three hits and drove in two runs in an 18-hit attack. Paredes is 14 for his last 29 (.483) with seven RBIs in his last eight games.

Seiya Suzuki had three hits, among seven Cubs starters with multi-hit game.

**BREWERS 6, PHILLIES 2**

**MILWAUKEE** (AP)—Joey Ortiz and William Contreras each drove in two runs, and Milwaukee moved a step closer to clinching the NL Central title by beating NL East-leading Philadelphia.

The Brewers' magic number is down to two as they seek their third division championship in the last four years. Milwaukee can wrap it up Tuesday night with a win and a Chicago Cubs loss.

Brewers starter Aaron Civale (9-8) scattered seven hits and struck out six while allowing one run and one walk in five innings. Colin Rea, normally a starter, made his fourth relief appearance of the season and worked 2 2/3 shutout innings for the 34-year-old's first career save.

Blake Perkins scored twice

for the Brewers. Brandon Marsh homered for the Phillies.

Contreras opened the scoring with a two-run double that had a 115.6 mph exit velocity, the third-highest of his career. Contreras hit a sharp grounder off Ranger Suarez that rolled all the way to the wall in left-center to bring home Jackson Chourio and Perkins.

**CARDINALS 4, PIRATES 0**

**ST. LOUIS** (AP)—Andre Pallante outdueled rookie Paul Skenes, striking out a career-high nine over seven innings to lead St. Louis over Pittsburgh.

Pallante (7-8) allowed four hits and one walk. Andrew Kittredge and Ryan Fernandez each pitched a perfect inning, finishing a four-hitter and the ninth shutout for the Cardinals this season.

Skenes (10-3) gave up one run and four hits in six innings with seven strikeouts and one walk, falling to 0-2 in three starts against St. Louis.

Skenes' 2.07 ERA is the second-lowest through a pitcher's first 21 starts since ERA became an official statistic in both leagues in 1913, trailing only Steve Rogers' 1.95 for Montreal in 1973 and 74.

Skenes threw his 94th pitch of 100 mph or more, retiring Paul Goldschmidt on a grounder that ended a nine-pitch at-bat in the fourth inning. No other starting pitcher has thrown more than 40 pitches of at least 100 mph this season.

**ROCKIES 3, DIAMONDBACKS 2**

**DENVER** (AP)—Brenton Doyle scored the winning run on a ninth-inning throwing error, and Colorado dealt a blow to Arizona's playoff chances with a win in a game that marked the return of Rockies pitcher Antonio Senzatela from Tommy John surgery.

Ezequiel Tovar and Hunter Goodman homered for the Rockies, who beat the Diamondbacks for only the third time in 11 meetings this season.

Ketel Marte hit a two-run homer for the defending NL champion Diamondbacks (83-67), who are in the second NL wild card position, one game ahead of the New York Mets and two in front of Atlanta.

Doyle singled off Ryan Thompson (7-5) leading off the ninth and stole second. Ryan McMahon was intentionally walked, Brendan Rodgers hit a grounder to Marte, and the second baseman flipped the ball to shortstop Geraldo Perdomo a force-out. But Perdomo's throw to

first trying for a double play was wide of Christian Walker as Doyle scored.

Seth Halvorsen (2-0) pitched two scoreless innings.

**WHITE SOX 8, ANGELS 4**

**ANAHEIM, Calif.** (AP)—Andrew Benintendi homered twice for the third time this season and drove in four runs, and Chicago beat Los Angeles for their first three-game winning streak in nearly three months.

It is only the fourth time the White Sox have won at least three in a row—and the first since June 27-29, when they beat Atlanta and Colorado. Chicago took two of three from Oakland over the weekend to snap a string of 20 consecutive series losses.

On Tuesday night, Chicago will try to match its season-high winning streak of four, which happened May 8-11 against Tampa Bay and Cleveland.

The White Sox are 36-115 with 11 games left and are trying to avoid the post-1900 record of 120 losses by the 1962 expansion New York Mets. Chicago is 16-57 away from home, well off the post-1900 mark of 65 road losses by the 1935 Boston Braves.

**PADRES 3, ASTROS 1**

**SAN DIEGO** (AP) - Yu Darvish had his best outing since being sidelined for more than three months, and rookie Jackson Merrill and Jurickson Profar homered as San Diego beat AL West-leading Houston.

The Padres took a 2 1/2-game lead over Arizona for the top NL wild card and stayed 3 1/2 games behind the first-place Los Angeles Dodgers in the NL West.


Houston's advantage in the AL West dropped to four games over idle Seattle.

Padres leadoff hitter Luis Arraez struck out for the first time since Aug. 10, snapping a streak of 141 plate appearances without whiffing. He went down swinging against rookie Spencer Arrighetti to end the second inning. It tied Padres Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn for the fifth-longest streak in the last 40 seasons. Gwynn, who played his entire career with the Padres, had the longest such streak, 170 plate appearances in 1995.

Arraez, the DH, later left the game with an apparent injury. He was shaken up on a slide as he was tagged out at home plate in the fifth. Arraez initially stayed in the game and doubled in the seventh, but walked off the field gingerly after being replaced by pinch-runner Tyler Wade.



# Sharapova wins fan vote for International Tennis Hall of Fame

NEWPORT, R.I. (AP)—Maria Sharapova, a five-time Grand Slam singles champion, led the International Tennis Hall of Fame's fan vote her first year on the ballot—an important part to possible selection to the hall's next class.

The organization released the voting results Friday. American doubles team Bob and Mike Bryan finished second with Canada's Daniel Nestor third.

The Hall of Fame said tens of thousands of fans from 120 countries cast ballots. Fan voting is one of two steps in the hall's selection process. The second is an official group of journalists, historians, and Hall of Famers from the sport who vote on the ballot for the hall's class of 2025.

"I am incredibly grateful to



AP Maria Sharapova of Russia celebrates after she won the women's final match against Ana Ivanovic of Serbia during the Brisbane International tennis tournament in Brisbane, Australia, Jan. 10, 2015.

Open in 2006 and the Australian Open in 2008. She also won the French Open twice, in 2012 and 2014.


Sharapova was also part of Russia's championship Fed Cup team in 2008 and won a silver medal at the London Olympics in 2012.

To make the hall, candidates must receive 75% or higher on combined results of the official voting group and additional percentage from the fan vote. Sharapova will have an additional three percentage points from winning the fan vote.

The Bryans, who won 16 Grand Slam doubles titles, will have two additional percentage points and Nestor, who won eight Grand Slam doubles titles, will get one extra percentage point.

The hall's next class will be announced late next month.

## US beats Slovakia to join Germany, Spain, Australia in Davis Cup Finals last eight

ZHUHAI, China (AP)—The United States secured its place in the last eight of the Davis Cup Finals after beating Slovakia 3-0 on Friday, a result that also sent unbeaten Germany through from the same group.

Spain joined them when four-time Grand Slam champion Carlos Alcaraz beat France's Ugo Humbert 6-3, 6-3. Veteran Roberto Bautista Agut won the first singles against Arthur Fils 2-6, 7-5, 6-3 in Valencia.

Spain's victory also put Australia through from Group B.

In Zhuhai, America's Mackenzie McDonald converted four of his six break points to beat Slovakia's Lukas Klein 6-4, 6-3, and Davis Cup debutant Brandon Nakashima had eight aces in a 6-3, 6-3 win against Jozef Kovalik.

The U.S. also won the doubles: Austin Krajicek and Rajeev Ram, who lost the men's doubles final at the Paris Olympics last month, rallied to beat Klein and Norbert Gombos 6-7 (4), 7-6 (4), 10-1, winning 15 of the last 16 points.

Italy kept its defense alive by beating Belgium 2-1 indoors in Bologna.

Matteo Berrettini edged past Alexander Blockx



AP In this photo released by Xinhua News Agency, Mackenzie McDonald, of the United States plays against Lukas Klein, of Slovakia during the men's singles of the group C match between the United States and Slovakia in the Davis Cup Finals tennis tournament in Zhuhai, south China's Guangdong Province, Friday, Sept. 13, 2024.

3-6, 6-2, 7-5, not breaking the teenage, 253rd-ranked Blockx in the last set until the last game.

Zizou Bergs upset Italy No. 1 Flavio Cobolli in the second singles, 6-0 in the third, to even the tie. In the deciding doubles, Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori, who surprisingly lost to Brazil on Wednesday, came though in straight sets on Friday.

After two ties each in Group A, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands will play for two spots on Sunday, when the Italians face the Dutch, and Belgium meets winless Brazil.

Britain missed the chance to qualify after losing both sin-

gles in a 2-1 defeat to Argentina, leaving Group D delicately poised heading into Saturday.

Tomás Martín Etcheverry won 6-2, 7-5 against Dan Evans, who last month won the longest match at the U.S. Open since tiebreakers were introduced in 1970.

Francisco Cerundolo followed by winning against surprise U.S. Open semifinalist Jack Draper 7-6 (4), 7-5.

Britain won the doubles but the tie was already over.

Four groups are playing in four cities this week to qualify for the eight-team Finals in Malaga, Spain, in November. The top two in each four-team group advance.

## CHACHA

From page 16

second was COVMS' Kyle Naputi at 16:18, and third was SIS' Andre Guerrero at 16:26.

In the girls division, repeat first place was Saipan Community School's Alyssa Brasuell at 17:24. Second was SIS' Faith Arriola with a time of 17:32 and a close third place was teammate Scarlet Burnell at 17:35.

Yang, a sixth-grader, said after the race that the new course was "hard for me, but I just ran harder than anyone else, so thank you God." He said throughout the race, he wasn't in the lead until the last lap when he turned up the velocity and sprinted ahead of everyone into first place.

The next qualifier is the SIS Gecko 5000 at Banzai Cliff is



LEIGH GASES A Saipan International School cross-country runner poses while running through the beach on the course of the second PSS/NMA All Schools Cross-Country 2024-2025 qualifier-Run Saipan Invitational at the American Memorial Park last Saturday.

on Sept. 28; the ISA Invitational with the location to be determined is on Oct. 5; and the championship is set for Oct. 12 at the Saipan Country

Club at Saipan Vegas.

Results of the 9U and 12U elementary school divisions will be posted in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

## KANOA

From page 16

sion, Kanoa FC 1 blanked Shirley's FC, 8-0; Paire FC outgated Kanoa FC 2, 2-0; and MP United FC silenced Latte FC, 6-0.

In the U14 girls division, Latte FC slipped past Paire FC, 2-1, and Kanoa shot a goal to win, 1-0 over Shirley's FC; and in the U14 boys division, Kanoa FC 1 overpowered Shirley's FC, 11-0, and MP United beat Latte FC, 5-2.

Results of the Fall 2024 Dove Women's League last Sunday will be posted in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	87	63	.580	—
Baltimore	84	66	.560	3
Boston	75	75	.500	12
Tampa Bay	73	77	.487	14
Toronto	72	78	.480	15
Central Division				
Cleveland	87	64	.576	—
Kansas City	82	69	.543	5
Minnesota	79	71	.527	7½
Detroit	78	73	.517	9
Chicago	36	115	.238	51
West Division				
Houston	81	69	.540	—
Seattle	77	73	.513	4
Texas	71	79	.473	10
Oakland	65	86	.430	16½
Los Angeles	60	90	.400	21
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Philadelphia	90	60	.600	—
New York	82	68	.547	8
Atlanta	81	69	.540	9
Washington	68	82	.453	22
Miami	55	95	.367	35
Central Division				
Milwaukee	87	63	.580	—
Chicago	77	73	.513	10
St. Louis	75	75	.500	12
Cincinnati	73	78	.483	14½
Pittsburgh	71	79	.473	16
West Division				
Los Angeles	89	61	.593	—
San Diego	86	65	.570	3½
Arizona	83	67	.553	6
San Francisco	72	78	.480	17
Colorado	58	93	.384	31½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL STANDINGS						
AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	2	0	0	1.000	65	38
Miami	1	1	0	.500	30	48
N.Y. Jets	1	1	0	.500	43	49
New England	1	1	0	.500	36	33
South						
Houston	2	0	0	1.000	48	40
Indianapolis	0	2	0	.000	37	45
Jacksonville	0	2	0	.000	30	38
Tennessee	0	2	0	.000	34	48
North						
Pittsburgh	2	0	0	1.000	31	16
Cleveland	1	1	0	.500	35	46
Baltimore	0	2	0	.000	43	53
Cincinnati	0	2	0	.000	35	42
West						
Kansas City	2	0	0	1.000	53	45
L.A. Chargers	2	0	0	1.000	48	13
Las Vegas	1	1	0	.500	36	45
Denver	0	2	0	.000	26	39
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
Dallas	1	1	0	.500	52	61
Philadelphia	1	1	0	.500	55	51
Washington	1	1	0	.500	41	55
N.Y. Giants	0	2	0	.000	24	49
South						
New Orleans	2	0	0	1.000	91	29
Tampa Bay	2	0	0	1.000	57	36
Atlanta	1	1	0	.500	32	39
Carolina	0	2	0	.000	13	73
North						
Minnesota	2	0	0	1.000	51	23
Chicago	1	1	0	.500	37	36
Detroit	1	1	0	.500	42	40
Green Bay	1	1	0	.500	45	44
West						
Seattle	2	0	0	1.000	49	40
Arizona	1	1	0	.500	69	44
San Francisco	1	1	0	.500	49	42
L.A. Rams	0	2	0	.000	30	67

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





**Cousins TD pass to London allows Falcons to rally past Eagles**  
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# Saipan Tribune Sports

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Kanoa U17 teams bag wins in TakeCare league start

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER

**K**a n o a Football Club's U 1 7 girls and boys teams bagged a win each in the season opener of the TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2024 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Saturday.



Some players of the Kanoa Football Club's U17 girls team pose for a photo during the TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2024 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Saturday.



The boys team took on the Women's Developmental Team and won, 2-0, while the girls team boasted a 10-0 win over Paire FC.

It was an even matchup as the much younger boys team took on the women's team, but the boys managed to gain an advantage in the 31st minute.

Taher Shakir put them up,

1-0, while the women's team tried to grasp at a tie-breaker. However, as time wound down, Kanoa dashed the women's team's hopes of a comeback as Christian Negara found the back of the net at the 79th minute.

Kanoa held on to win, 2-0, as the women's team failed to

get a goal on board.

Beatrice Gross was the leading scorer for the Kanoa girls team as she collected five goals. Ye Lynn Ha contributed two goals, while Elikristiana Iglecias, Miley Mafnas, Hayven Moteisou, and Aubrey White nipped the net once each.

Their defense also held

steadfast as Paire could not get a goal in and succumbed to a 10-goal deficit.

In the other games of the U17 girls division, MP United defeated Shirley's FC, 5-1, and in the U17 boys division, MP United blanked Latte FC, 7-0.

As for the U12 boys division, **See KANOA on Page 15**

## KHS rallies to win, 17-13

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER

Kagman High School Ayuyus varsity fastpitch softball team has won their first game in the Inaugural PSS-NMI Softball Association Interscholastic Boys High School Fast Pitch Softball League 2024-2025.

They were down by two runs at the end of the third inning, but had a bounce back last inning to win, 17-13, over Mount Carmel School

Knights last Saturday at the Dandan Softball Field.

The Ayuyus played it smart and took advantage of the Knights' pitching change as they walked the bases loaded in the fourth inning. Down 11-13, soon it became 15-13 in the Ayuyus' favor. Two more runs would be scored by the top of the lineup's Devin Yumul and Justin Camacho to pad their lead by four runs, 17-13.

The Knights had the last at-bat, but they failed to manu-



Mount Carmel School catcher Herman Iguel waits for the ball during their game against Kagman High School in the Inaugural PSS-NMI Softball Association Interscholastic Boys High School Fast Pitch Softball League 2024-2025 last Saturday at the Dandan Softball Field.

facture runs even as they tried to get something going. They went on to leave runners on base as KHS' pitcher shut them down and held on to the lead to bagged their first win of the season.

The Knights actually struck first and held a hefty lead with a 10-run first inning, but the Ayuyus climbed their way out of the hole with an eight-run second inning. The Ayuyus then added three more in the third inning, but the Knights retook the lead at the bottom of the third with three runs as well. The Ayuyus just toughed it out with patience in the last

inning and stole their first win.

Then, in a rain-shortened game after, Marianas High School varsity beat Saipan International School, 17-4.

Last Monday's game between Saipan Southern High School and KHS was postponed due to inclement weather.

Also last Monday, the season opener of the NMIFA-PSS Co-ed Elementary Interscholastic Soccer League 2024-2025 was postponed due to inclement weather as well. Updates regarding make-up dates will be provided at a later time.



A Kagman High School varsity fast pitch softball player makes a beeline to home plate during their game against Mount Carmel School in the Inaugural PSS-NMI Softball Association Interscholastic Boys High School Fast Pitch Softball League 2024-2025 last Saturday at the Dandan Softball Field.

## Chacha, SIS top MS divisions



LEIGH GASES

14U middle school division cross-country runners race out of the starting line of the second PSS/NMA All Schools Cross-Country 2024-2025 qualifier-Run Saipan Invitational at the American Memorial Park last Saturday.



LEIGH GASES

First place in the middle school boys division, Lucas Yang, in the background, traverses through the woods-lined beach path with another runner on the course of the second PSS/NMA All Schools Cross-Country 2024-2025 qualifier-Run Saipan Invitational at the American Memorial Park last Saturday.

By LEIGH GASES

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Chacha Ocean View Middle School Lancheris and Saipan International School Lady

Geckos traversed the muddy, wet, and brutal new course to first place in the middle school division of the second PSS/NMA All Schools Cross-Country 2024-2025 qualifier-Run Saipan Invitational at the American Memorial Park last Saturday.

The Lancheris topped the 14U middle school boys division with 23 points, while SIS were right behind at 25 points. Third was Dandan Middle School Tottots with a score of 53 points; Agape Christian School Torchbearers were at 54 points; and Hopwood Middle School scored 59 points.

In the 14U middle school girls division, the Lady Geckos collected 11 points; HMS was a far second with 47 points; ACS was at 49 points; Grace Christian Academy had 56 points; and DMS scored 65 points.

For the individual results of the boys division, ACS' Lucas Yang came in first in the 2-mile course with a time of 15:11. A distant

**See CHACHA on Page 15**



LEIGH GASES

First place in the middle school girls division, Alyssa Brasuell runs through the woods after the beach portion of the course in the second PSS/NMA All Schools Cross-Country 2024-2025 qualifier-Run Saipan Invitational at the American Memorial Park last Saturday.